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FBIS-EAS-91-018 CONTENTS *28 January 1991*

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NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Kaifu Urges Iraq To Withdraw Troops From Kuwait *[KYODO]* 1
    Speaks of 'New World Order' *[KYODO]* 1
Opposition Parties Attack Handling of Gulf War *[KYODO]* 2
Ministry Sources Say Syria To Get Economic Aid *[KYODO]* 2
GCC Panel To Assist in Allocating Gulf Aid *[KYODO]* 3
Buddhist Sect Finances Gulf Relief Operation *[KYODO]* 3
Ozawa Dismisses Komeito Proposal on Gulf Aid *[KYODO]* 4
Demonstrators in Tokyo, Other Cities Protest War *[KYODO]* 4
    Further on Nationwide Protests *[KYODO]* 4
Embassy Officials Say SRV Refugees 'Stranded' *[KYODO]* 5
Vietnam Thanks Japan for Refugee Evacuation Plan *[KYODO]* 5
Kaifu Meets With LDP Gulf Evacuation Mission *[KYODO]* 5
    Delegation Departs for Cairo *[KYODO]* 6
Nagasaki Mayor Contacts Iranian President on Gulf *[KYODO]* 6
Travel Advisory for Tunisia, Algeria Announced *[KYODO]* 6
Companies To Import Saudi LPG on Foreign Ships *[KYODO]* 6
Firms Affected by Gulf Trade Ban File Claims *[KYODO]* 6
Tokyo To Apologize to DPRK for Colonial Rule *[KYODO]* 7
Protracted Sino-Japanese Steel Talks Conclude *[KYODO]* 7
Germany's Brandt Fears Conservatism in USSR *[KYODO]* 7
Hokkaido To Promote Ties With Russian Republic *[KYODO]* 7
Nicaraguan President To Visit 11-14 Feb *[KYODO]* 8
KDD Restores Telex Communications With Lebanon *[KYODO]* 8
Diet Reconvenes 25 Jan Following New Year Recess *[KYODO]* 8
LDP Draft Platform Stresses Peacekeeping Role *[KYODO]* 8
Amnesty International on Human Rights in Japan *[KYODO]* 9
U.S. Trade Official on Access for Foreign Lawyers *[KYODO]* 9
U.S. Says Trade Imbalance 'Staggeringly Large' *[KYODO]* 10
Toshiba Buys Stake in U.S. Semiconductor Firm *[KYODO]* 10
U.S. Requests Extension of Semiconductor Pact *[KYODO]* 10
Tokyo To Extend Construction Talks With U.S. *[KYODO]* 11
Mieno Denies Plan To Lower Interest Rates *[KYODO]* 11
MITI Minister Calls for Nuclear Fuel Cycle *[KYODO]* 12
Farmers' Rice Sales to Government 'Very Slow' *[KYODO]* 12
Hitachi To Begin Shipments of 4-Megabit Chip *[KYODO]* 12
Ethylene Production Rises 3.7 Percent in 1990 *[KYODO]* 12
Consumer Price Index Sets Nine-Year High in 1990 *[KYODO]* 13
Trade Surplus Down 13.2 Percent From 1989 *[KYODO]* 13
Vehicle Production Posts Record High in 1990 *[KYODO]* 13
Reportage on Nakayama's Moscow Visit *[cross-reference]* 13

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Statement on Team Spirit *[Pyongyang Radio]* 14
    KCNA Cites Team Spirit Statement 15
    Timing of Team Spirit Criticized *[Pyongyang Radio]* 16
South's Gulf Plans Called 'War Preparations' *[KCNA]* 17
Paper Warns of North-South Dialogue 'Collapse' *[KCNA]* 17

People Urged To Fight 'Imperialist Policies' *[KCNA]* ... 17
Pyongyang Reports Iraqi Attack on Allied Forces *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 18
Soviet Figure Comments on Military Cooperation *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 18
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Indian President *[KCNA]* ... 19
Yon Hyong-muk Sends Message to Lao Counterpart *[KCNA]* ... 19
Kim Yong-nam Greets New Peruvian Counterpart *[KCNA]* ... 19
Kim Il-song Sends Condolences to King of Norway *[KCNA]* ... 19
Kim Il-song Greets Uganda's Yoweri Museveni *[KCNA]* ... 19
Delegations Leave for Uganda, Germany *[KCNA]* ... 20
'Special Article' on Role, Duty of Intellectuals *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 20
Prospecting Corps Find Metal Ore Deposits *[KCNA]* ... 26
CPC Decree Awards Order of Labor to Teachers *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 27
* Improvement in Fiscal Management Urged *[NODONG SINMUN 2 Nov]* ... 27

South Korea

Soviet Envoy Calls North's UN Plan Unrealistic *[TONG-A ILBO 26 Jan]* ... 29
North Official Assures Participation in Talks *[SEOUL SINMUN 24 Jan]* ... 29
1st Air Defense Exercise in Pyongyang in 10 Years *[CHOSON ILBO 28 Jan]* ... 30
North Heavy Industries 'Plunged Into Stagnation' *[YONHAP]* ... 30
North Food Shortage Leads to 'Two Meals a Day' *[KOREA DAILY 25 Jan]* ... 30
Seoul To Send Representatives to Pyongyang *[YONHAP]* ... 30
Pomminnyon Preparatory Committee Planned *[HANGYORE SINMUN 13 Jan]* ... 31
North Eases Into Textile Exports to Japan *[YONHAP]* ... 31
Security Cooperation Agreement With U.S. Signed *[YONHAP]* ... 31
Developments Related to Gulf War Reported ... 32
  Seoul Considers Further Deployment *[YONHAP]* ... 32
  Airport Put on Terrorist Alert *[YONHAP]* ... 32
  KAL May Cancel Some Flights *[YONHAP]* ... 32
  659 Evacuees Return From Gulf *[YONHAP]* ... 32
  Persian Gulf Situation Analyzed *[HANGYORE SINMUN 18 Jan]* ... 33
China Refuses To Give Koreans Journalist Visas *[YONHAP]* ... 34
  PRC Issues Journalist Visas *[YONHAP]* ... 34
Trade Office in Beijing Set To Open 30 Jan *[YONHAP]* ... 34
Seoul, Budapest Initial Visa Waiver Accord *[YONHAP]* ... 34
No Tae-u Stresses Need for Technical Manpower *[THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]* ... 34
Premier Comments on Existence of Dissident Groups *[YONHAP]* ... 35
Arrests Ordered 'To Prevent' Illegal Protests *[YONHAP]* ... 35
Police Raid of Radio Station Ends 7-Day Protest *[YONHAP]* ... 35
* Sixth Republic Courts Fifth Republic Leaders *[CHOSON ILBO 10 Dec]* ... 36
* ROK Firms Establishing R&D Centers Abroad *[CHUNGANG ILBO 19 Dec]* ... 37

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Khin Nyunt Addresses 108th News Conference ... 39
  Part One *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 39
  Part Two *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 41
Opposition: Rival Government Leaders 'Kidnapped' *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 26 Jan]* ... 44
6 Killed, 18 Injured in Passenger Boat Ambush *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 45

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Government Concern Over War's 'Rapid Escalation' *[BERNAMA]* ... 45
Saudi Reponse to Proposal on Holy Cities Awaited *[Kuala Lumpur International]* ... 46
Minister Calls for UN Security Council Meeting *[Kuala Lumpur International]* ... 46
Radio: Nation Keen on Gulf Conflict Settlement *[Kuala Lumpur International]* ... 46

Singapore

Thai Foreign Minister Meets With Prime Minister *[Bangkok TV]* 46

Cambodia

'No Intention' of Launching Dry Season Offensive *[AFP]* 47
Hor Namhong: UN Inspection Request Postponed *[AFP]* 48
National Assembly Schedules 20th Session 28 Jan *[SPK]* 48
    Chea Sim Chairs Opening Session *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 48
Lao Military Delegation Arrives in Phnom Penh *[KPL]* 49
VONADK Reports Battambang Military Situation 49
VONADK: Vietnamese Forces on Route 10 Front 50
Battambang Town in 'Great Chaos and Danger' *[Radio VONADK]* 51
Sihanouk Condemns SRV Insistence on 'Status Quo' *[Radio VODK]* 51

Indonesia

Foreign Minister Emphasizes Role in Gulf War *[ANTARA]* 52
Minister Warns Against Provocation by War *[Jakarta Radio]* 52
Minister Discourages Muslims' Influence by War *[Jakarta Radio]* 52
Islamic Group Agrees on Statement on Gulf War *[ANTARA]* 52
Minister Tells Businesses To 'Remain Calm' *[ANTARA]* 53
Economic Impact of Gulf War Analyzed *[Jakarta Radio]* 53
    Dailies Comment on Impact *[Jakarta Radio]* 54
Minister Says Economy Not Dependent on Oil Price *[ANTARA]* 54

Laos

Assembly Delegation in Beijing Meets Chen Muhua *[Vientiane Radio]* 55
    Group Meets With Li Peng *[Vientiane Radio]* 55
    Returns Home 27 Jan *[KPL]* 56
Second Day of Mourning for Sali Vongkhamsao *[KPL]* 56
    Foreign Officials Pay Tribute *[Vientiane Radio]* 56
Thailand, France, U.S., China Top Investors *[Bangkok THE NATION 11 Jan]* 57

Philippines

Non-Iraqi Foreign Terrorists Reported in Country *[Manila Radio]* 57
    Japanese Terrorists Enter Country *[Quezon City Radio]* 57
Two Suspected Iraqi Terrorists Deported *[KYODO]* 57
Embassy's Response on Envoy's Expulsion Praised *[Quezon City Radio]* 57
Legaspi City Radio Station Bombed *[Manila Radio]* 58
    Secretary Cites Terrorist Link *[Manila Radio]* 58
Ramos Says Gulf Military Aid Needs Approval *[Manila Radio]* 58
Gulf Cease-Fire Resolution Approved by Congress *[Manila Radio]* 58
Security Director on Troop Deployment to Gulf *[Manila Radio]* 59
Column Views Gulf War As 'Tranquilizer' *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 28 Jan]* 59
Suspect Arrested in U.S. Colonel's Murder *[Manila Radio]* 60
Military Chief Outlines Goals, Role *[AFP]* 60
Aquino Accepts Aide's Resignation *[Manila Radio]* 61

Thailand

Chatchai Views Prospects for DPRK Embassy *[Bangkok Radio]* 61
    Cabinet Approves Embassy Proposal *[MATICHON 27 Jan]* 62
Downed Army Pilot Interrogated in Phnom Penh *[BANGKOK POST 26 Jan]* 62
Army Units on Alert at Cambodian Border *[Bangkok Radio]* 62
7 Arabs Under Surveillance After Illegal Entry *[THE NATION 27 Jan]* 63
Gulf Relief Center Not To Be Dissolved *[THE NATION 26 Jan]* 63
Reportage on Reaction to Threats of Terrorism 63

Sunthon Discusses Security Measures *[Bangkok TV]* 63
    Says Country Not Terrorism Center *[THE NATION 28 Jan]* 64
    Officials on 'Terrorist Threat' *[THE NATION 26 Jan]* 64
    Police Chief on Security Steps *[Bangkok Radio]* 65
    Paper Views Security Measures *[THAI RAT 26 Jan]* 65
    Media Urged To Use Care *[Bangkok Radio]* 66
    Troops Guard Against Iraqi Terrorists *[THE NATION 26 Jan]* 66
    Chatchai Rejects CNN Report *[Bangkok TV]* 67
Chatchai Predicts Little Impact From Gulf War *[Bangkok Radio]* 67
Another Medical Team Departs for Saudi Arabia *[Bangkok Radio]* 67
Ministry Suspends Export of Workers to Mideast *[THE NATION 26 Jan]* 67
500 Pro-Saddam Muslims Hold Religious Service *[THE NATION 27 Jan]* 68
Thai Muslims Give Peace Letter to U.S. Embassy *[THE NATION 28 Jan]* 69
Foreign Ministry Official Defends Mideast Policy *[Bangkok Radio]* 69

Vietnam

NHAN DAN Reviews Gulf War 'After Seven Days' *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
Peace Groups Issue 'Press Communique' on War *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
President Asks Saddam for Workers' Quick Return *[VNA]* 71
Vietnamese Workers Returning Home Through Jordan *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
NHAN DAN Reviews Foreign Affairs in 1990 *[VNA]* 71
Nguyen Thi Hang News Conference on Repartriates *[VNA]* 72
Hanoi Radio Marks India's 41st Republic Day *[Hanoi International]* 73

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Senior Iraqi Diplomat Expelled From Canberra *[Melbourne International]* 74
    Envoy Leaves for Malaysia, Tehran *[Melbourne International]* 74
Suspect Charged in Attempted Pro-Iraq Hijack *[AFP]* 74
Letter, Calls Urge Peaceful Resolution in Gulf *[Melbourne International]* 74
Evans Says Greenpeace Stand on Oil Slick 'Error' *[AFP]* 75
'Thousands of Croatians' Rally for Democracy *[AFP]* 75

Japan

Kaifu Urges Iraq To Withdraw Troops From Kuwait

OW2601121691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Kofu, Jan. 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu reiterated Saturday that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn should withdraw his troops from Kuwait.

Kaifu, on a stumping tour for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) candidate in the gubernatorial election in Yamanashi Prefecture, said it is not too late for the Iraqi President to withdraw his troops from Kuwait and comply with United Nations resolutions and international public opinion.

The prime minister, however, failed to mention during his 20-minute campaign speech Japan's pledge of an additional 9 billion dollars to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, or the government's planned dispatch of military transport planes to evacuate war refugees.

Kaifu was speaking for the first time in public since the government announced its package for the war effort on Thursday. "(The Gulf issue) should be resolved complying with U.N. resolutions. It is President Husayn's decision that could lead to a breakthrough," Kaifu said.

Noting that Japan's is the world's No. 2 economic power, Kaifu said Japan has a great responsibility for global "cooperation and contribution."

Speaks of 'New World Order'

OW2801091791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, responding to opposition accusations that he is forfeiting sovereignty to the United States in the Persian Gulf conflict, said Monday the pledge of an additional 9 billion dollars for U.S.-led forces was Japan's contribution toward creating a new world order.

Kaifu said that the government is also considering ways to help clean up the oil spill spreading in the Gulf, and pledged to continue making diplomatic efforts to restore peace in the area. But he did not mention any specific schemes.

Kaifu reiterated Japan's firm support for the multilateral forces and demanded Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait in accord with United Nations resolution, saying the post-cold war world could not tolerate military incursions by one country into another.

Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi, in parliamentary interpellation, accused the government of helping to bankroll the conflict in the interests of avoiding further political friction with its major trading partner.

"Judging from the measures the Kaifu cabinet has taken, it appears that the government is unconditionally meeting the U.S. Government's demands, and forfeiting its own sovereign rights," Doi said in the opening day of the three-day Diet questioning.

"To prevent this from expanding into a fifth Middle East war, I want Japan to make all efforts toward calling an immediate ceasefire," said the leader of the country's no. 1 opposition party.

Doi warned that Japan could be drawn into the war if there are attacks on air Self-Defense Force [SDF] C-130 transport planes which the government plans to send to the Middle East to help evacuate refugees. But the opposition leader did not ask what the government would do if a transport plane was attacked or shot down, nor did she indicate what the JSP's response would be. She criticized the government, however, for not even attempting to debate the issue in the Diet.

The government avoided bringing the matter before parliament by amending a cabinet ordinance instead of revising the Self-Defense Forces Law, which currently allows for no overseas activities by the SDF, to enable the planes to make the relief mission.

Doi sought a government response on the legal grounds for sending SDF personnel overseas, and Kaifu said it was not a violation of the law or constitution as the mission was for humanitarian and not military purposes.

The prime minister avoided responding to Doi's question on whether a requirement that a 2 billion dollar contribution pledged to the multilateral forces last fall for nonlethal purposes only would also be applied to the latest 9 billion dollar contribution.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto told a news conference earlier in the day that the matter would be decided in conjunction with the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. The Japanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia and a GCC panel are overseeing the disbursement of the funds.

Asked what Japan would do about the massive oil slick in the Gulf, Kaifu said he has instructed the minister of international trade and industry, Eiichi Nakao, to study how Japan could best respond to the pollution.

Kaifu also dismissed Doi's proposal to establish a regional grouping to discuss security in Asia, calling it a premature idea. He called for addressing issues individually, such as the return of four Soviet-held islands east of Hokkaido claimed by Japan, reduction of tensions on the Korean Peninsula, talks between Japan and North Korea on establishment of diplomatic ties, and an end to the Cambodia conflict.

Responding to questions from Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida, Kaifu said the government would never seek to extend the new government ordinance allowing the dispatch of the SDF transport planes, and that there is no need for the Japanese people to worry about the issue.

Ishida urged the government to reduce budget spending and also the size of Japan's next five-year defense program, starting this April, which targets defense spending for the period at 22.75 trillion yen, in order to finance the 9 billion dollar additional aid to the multinational forces.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto rejected Ishida's call, saying that it is next to impossible to cut back the defense program and the fiscal 1991 budget, which he said were both already austere ones.

Ishida urged the convening of a comprehensive Asia-Pacific peace conference, but Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said it is too early to do so, pointing to the prolonged war in Cambodia and the still tense situation on the Korean peninsula.

Opposition Parties Attack Handling of Gulf War

OW2501101191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Opposition parties fired off their attacks at the government's handling of the Persian Gulf war on Thursday [day as received].

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP) accused the government of acting in a "fascist" manner over its decision to dispatch Self-Defense Forces transport aircraft to the Middle East under a new cabinet ordinance. The country's leading opposition party said the decision was a "fascist act and a denial of parliamentary democratic procedures and in total disregard for the Diet." The party said the 9 billion dollars promised by the government to assist the multinational forces arrayed against Iraq in the Gulf would significantly impact on the budget for fiscal 1991.

JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi, in an address to a meeting of party members from both houses, said her party has a responsibility to promote debate in the nation as one way to promote peace and bring about an end to the Gulf war. Doi called for an immediate halt to hostilities in the Gulf, an end to the overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces, and opposition to any increase in taxes to pay for the war effort.

"We cannot consent to (the government) unilaterally assuming the burden for the cost of a war and then pushing it onto the nation," Doi said. "They are forcibly trying to create a fait accompli involving the overseas dispatch of troops."

Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa, at a joint meeting of party members from both houses, questioned a government decision to provide 9 billion dollars in assistance to the multinational forces by raising taxes. "Why do the people have to be the first to shoulder the burden? Why doesn't the government itself first cut down on its annual expenditure?" Ichikawa asked.

Ichikawa said Komeito, the second largest opposition party, believed the government should try to avoid forcing all of the payment onto the nation, by taking some of the funds from other government outlays. "We'd like to see the government try to cut down by about 500 billion yen," he said.

Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida told the joint sitting that the party could not agree to the 9 billion dollars being used for the purchase of weapons and ammunition. He said it was necessary to consider what the funds would be spent on.

Japanese Communist Party Presidium Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa said the government had used "coup d'etat style" methods in its decision to dispatch SDF transport planes and personnel overseas to help evacuate refugees. "Allowing 9 billion dollars to be spent with no conditions attached amounts to unconditional support for war," Fuwa said.

Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Keigo Ouchi, in an address to a party meeting, said Japan should become a truly international nation ready to distribute its share in activities for human rights, peace, freedom and prosperity. "Pursuing gains for ourselves only cannot be tolerated," Ouchi said. "Questions about additional aid to the multinational forces and the humanitarian use of SDF planes ought to be answered on the basis of such a fundamental standpoint."

Ouchi questioned whether the Kaifu Cabinet is able to cope with the current political situation. "It is being tested to see whether it has the courage to back its convictions," Ouchi said. "Depending on which way it goes, there is the possibility it can shake up politics in Japan in a big way."

LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, at a press conference, indicated the party expects the Gulf war to become a major subject of debate during the current session of the Diet.

Ministry Sources Say Syria To Get Economic Aid

OW2601133191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1303 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The Japanese Government plans to add Syria to the list of frontline states in the Persian Gulf war eligible for Japan's economic aid, Foreign Ministry sources said Saturday.

Syria will be the fourth of the frontline countries Japan has promised economic aid to because they are hard hit by economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in August. The other three are Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey.

Japan has so far pledged 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to the frontline countries, 950 million dollars of which had been disbursed. Part of the remaining 1.05 billion dollars will be used for Syria, the sources said.

As one of the reasons for adding Syria to the aid list, the sources said Syria maintains an anti-Iraq policy and has sent troops to the U.S.-led multinational forces in Saudi Arabia. Syria also reportedly expressed readiness to remain in the anti-Iraqi alliance even if Israel retaliates against Iraq for its missile attacks, they said.

Noting, however, that the United States regards Syria as a "state supporting terrorism," the sources said the Japanese Government will make its final decision to assist Syria after consulting the U.S. at a meeting of the Gulf Crisis Fund Adjustment Group to be held in Washington on February 5.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad asked Japan to add his country to the list of frontline states when Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama visited Syria last October. Nakayama made no commitment at the time, only telling the Syrian leader that Japan will study the matter, officials said.

GCC Panel To Assist in Allocating Gulf Aid

OW2801055691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japan expects to funnel the bulk of the 9 billion dollars in its additional contribution to the multinational forces fighting Iraq to the United States, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said Monday.

But the Japanese Government has not yet decided whether the money may be used for ammunition and other combat items, the chief cabinet spokesman said. "I presume that the United States will receive the largest part (of the money)," he said at a regularly scheduled news conference.

Sakamoto said its allocation would be decided in consultation with a panel of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which groups six Persian Gulf nations. The Japanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia and the GCC panel will oversee the distribution of the money.

Sakamoto declined to comment on speculation that Japan may abandon restrictions applied to its 2 billion dollar contribution made last fall. Japan designated the use of the money only for noncombat purposes such as transportation of food.

Japan's postwar Constitution bans the country from using force in order to resolve international conflict, and there is widespread popular sentiment in the nation that the government should avoid directly funding combat.

Asked whether Japan is prepared to take action to help contain a massive oil slick spilled into the Gulf, Sakamoto said the government is still collecting information. The spill of millions of barrels is reported to be over 50 kilometers wide and 15 kilometers long.

The U.S. has accused Iraq of deliberately pumping oil into the Gulf in an attempt to interfere with military operations. But Iraq says the spill was caused by allied raids on oil tankers.

Meanwhile, the International Trade and Industry Ministry said Monday that it has no plan at this time to send experts to Saudi Arabia to help protect its desalination plants from the oil slick. There is no effective measure to protect such plants from oil slicks, ministry officials said. Japanese makers of desalination plants have received no request from Saudi Arabia to send experts, they said.

At present, the only option is to stop the plants' operations to prevent the mixture of oil and water, the officials said.

The government will soon hold a meeting of concerned ministries to discuss ways that Japan can help clean up the vast crude oil spill in the Persian Gulf, Yukiharu Kodama, vice minister of International Trade and Industry, said in a press conference Monday.

Experts from concerned ministries, possibly including MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry], the Transport Ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Environment Agency, will gather under the initiative of the Foreign Ministry to discuss the issue and decide what Japan can do to limit the damage to the environment and to desalination plants in Saudi Arabia, Kodama said.

The desalination plants that provide drinking water to the Saudi Arabians are vulnerable to such contamination since they are designed to handle only fairly clean seawater, Kodama said.

"We must first collect more information, and then decide what Japan can do," he said.

Buddhist Sect Finances Gulf Relief Operation

OW2601123091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—Soka Gakkai, a major Buddhist sect in Japan, has shouldered 13 million yen in charter fees for two civilian airplanes to carry relief materials for war refugees in the Persian Gulf area, a spokesman said Saturday.

The move was in response to a request from the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said Kazuo Ishiwata, chairman of Soka Gakkai's Youth Peace Conference.

The two aircraft left Karachi for Tehran on Friday carrying tents, water-resistant cloth, and other relief materials, he said.

Ishiwata said he believes Soka Gakkai is the first private organization to provide financial support to such refugee relief operations.

Ozawa Dismisses Komeito Proposal on Gulf Aid

OW2601084891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0823 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Sendai, Jan. 26 KYODO—A top official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Saturday brushed aside a counterproposal from opposition party Komeito on financial assistance to allied forces in the Gulf war.

LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa dismissed Komeito's proposal that instead of raising taxes, some of the 9 billion dollars the government pledged for assistance to the U.S.-led multinational forces come from other government outlays.

The government, which announced the package Thursday, plans to issue short-term bonds to raise the money and is planning to submit bills to raise oil and other taxes to redeem the bonds.

The largest opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party, and the second largest, Komeito, have opposed an increase in taxes to obtain the funds. Komeito urged the government to take some of the funds from other outlays, such as defense expenditure and public investment.

Speaking to reporters after attending a party held by an LDP branch in Sendai, Ozawa said it is not an easy task to revise the fiscal 1991 budget plan, which was based on budgetary requests from all the governmental ministries and agencies in response to the Japanese people's needs.

"The Government and the Japanese people both have pledged their contribution (of an additional aid package) to the international community," Ozawa said. He also repeated an earlier comment that if the Diet rejects the taxation bills, not only should Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu resign, but also the LDP should surrender power to the opposition. "The JSP and Komeito fully forget who disturbed peace and invaded (Kuwait)."

The bills could not pass through the House of Councillors if the JSP, Komeito and other opposition parties, which command a majority in the Upper House, opposed them.

The LDP controls the House of Representatives, but passage by both houses is necessary for raising taxes.

Demonstrators in Tokyo, Other Cities Protest War

OW2601133391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—Antiwar demonstrations erupted in Tokyo, Osaka and Hiroshima Saturday, with more than 15,000 people marching in the capital, to protest the U.S.-led alliance and increased Japanese involvement in the Persian Gulf war.

Japan Communist Party Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa, addressing an antiwar rally at Meiji Park in Tokyo, criticized the government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu for "whipping up the war instead of seeking peace."

The demonstrations were the largest since the government decided Thursday to contribute an additional 9 billion dollars in support of the multinational forces fighting Iraq and to dispatch military transport aircraft to evacuate refugees fleeing the Gulf war.

In Tokyo, the protesters, which organizers said totaled 15,000 people, marched to the prime minister's official residence after attending the rally. The event was sponsored by the JCP-affiliated National Confederation of Trade Unions and 24 other leftist groups. Also in Tokyo, 800 demonstrators, including elementary school pupils wearing fake gas masks, marched to the U.S. Embassy and the Foreign Ministry with banners saying "Stop War Now." The protesters charged that the government decision to send Air Self-Defense Force aircraft to the Gulf means Japan will be taking part in the war. Also on Saturday, the Japan Federation of Medical Workers Unions, which represents 170,000 medical workers nationwide, said in a statement to Kaifu it is opposed to sending medical personnel to the Gulf. Sending such personnel to the Persian Gulf "amounts to government cooperation in the war," the statement said.

In Hiroshima, 200 people, including atomic bomb survivors, braved biting cold and launched a one-hour sit-in at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in protest to the war. Yukio Yokohara, one of the organizers of the sit-in, said they fear nuclear or chemical weapons might be used in the war. "In order never to make new A-bomb victims, we call for an immediate ceasefire," said Yokohara, head of the Hiroshima chapter of the Japan Congress Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. The sit-in participants adopted a resolution urging U.S. President Bush to stop hostilities against Iraq, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to withdraw from Kuwait, and Kaifu to stop providing aid for the U.S.-led allied forces in the Gulf.

In Osaka, 150 people on Saturday marched to the local U.S. Consulate General, shouting "the United States and the allied forces, get out of the Middle East." Christian priests, labor union members, and a civilian group providing aid to Palestinian refugees took part in the demonstration. The Osaka rally also criticized the government's plans to support the multinational forces.

Further on Nationwide Protests

OW2701141991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—Children, students, citizens, and atomic-bomb victims staged demonstrations and sit-ins in various parts of Japan on Sunday to protest the Persian Gulf war and Japan's planned dispatch of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) transport planes to the Gulf.

About 20 people rallied in front of the Diet Building in central Tokyo and observed a silent prayer for soldiers and citizens who have died in the war.

Approximately 300 citizens staged a die-in near Shibuya Railway Station in Tokyo, calling for an immediate end to the war.

In Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, some 70 citizens gathered in front of the maritime Self-Defense Force local headquarters and called on SDF members not go to the Middle East.

In Yokohama, 20 housewives staged a sit-in in front of Yokohama Railway Station and handed out leaflets that read, "we do not want to provide money for murder."

In Omiya, north of Tokyo, about 300 people held a rally and adopted a resolution condemning the government for its cooperation with the U.S.-led multinational forces fighting Iraq.

On Thursday, Japan announced it would provide an additional 9 billion dollars in financial support for the anti-Iraq forces and would send air Self-Defense Force C-130 transport planes to airlift Gulf war evacuees.

In Nagasaki, western Japan, around 200 unionists and atomic-bomb victims held a sit-in at Peace Park and called for an end to the war and a cancellation of the government's plan to support the coalition war effort.

Also in Nagasaki, nearly 150 children and their parents rallied against the war and adopted a resolution calling for a peaceful settlement of the war and for the government work toward peace.

Embassy Officials Say SRV Refugees 'Stranded'

OW2701062191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Amman, Jan. 27 KYODO—A first group of 580 Vietnamese refugees, scheduled to fly a Japan Airlines' (JAL) rescue flight in Cairo to return home, were stranded in a snowstorm before reaching the port city of Aqaba on Saturday, Japanese Embassy officials said.

The officials said the refugees are stranded in Maan, about 100 kilometers north of Aqaba and stayed overnight there.

The Vietnamese refugees, who left a camp in 12 buses on the outskirts of Amman, are to move to Aqaba on Sunday if the weather improves, the officials said. But, the officials said the Japanese Embassy is running into difficulties to charter a ferry boat, which carries the refugees from Aqaba to the Egyptian port town of Nueva across the Red Sea.

A chartered JAL refugee flight will leave Cairo for Vietnam via Japan by Sunday midnight if those people stranded reach the Egyptian capital as scheduled, the officials said.

The officials also said a second group of 382 Vietnamese refugees will leave Jordan for Cairo on Monday via Aqaba and Nueva by boat and bus.

Vietnam Thanks Japan for Refugee Evacuation Plan

OW2501123791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Vietnam is grateful for Japan's decision to send four planes to Cairo to evacuate Vietnamese nationals fleeing the Persian Gulf war, Hanoi's Ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung said on Friday.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Sung conveyed Hanoi's gratitude in a meeting with Masaki Konishi, deputy director general of the ministry's United Nations Bureau.

The first of the four civilian planes was set to depart from Tokyo on Friday night for Paris en route to Cairo. It will carry the refugees first back to Tokyo on transit to Ho Chi Minh City.

About 1,000 Vietnamese, who were serving as guest workers in Iraq, are now either awaiting the Japanese planes in the Egyptian capital or are on their way there by ferry from the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba, officials said.

Sung was quoted as requesting Japan to also transport home any of the estimated 2,000 remaining Vietnamese in Iraq that manage to make their way to Jordan. Officials said the envoy originally requested Japan's refugee evacuation assistance last autumn.

The first two planes are expected to arrive in Cairo on Sunday and the other two on Tuesday.

Kaifu Meets With LDP Gulf Evacuation Mission

OW2601004791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu met Friday with a Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] mission leaving Saturday for Cairo to prepare the way for the dispatch of military planes to transport refugees fleeing the Persian Gulf war.

Kaifu urged the mission of four LDP members to find "practicable" ways of sending the Air Self-Defense Forces (ADSF) transport aircraft to the Persian Gulf region.

The mission, headed by former Labor Minister Toshio Yamaguchi, will visit Cairo to observe the airlift of Vietnamese refugees on Japanese civilian airliners before going to Syria and Jordan.

The team was originally to include nine LDP members but this was cut to four after the Japan Socialist Party protested that so many LDP members should not leave Japan while the Diet is in session, party officials said.

Delegation Departs for Cairo

OW2601104191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—A ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) delegation left for Cairo on Saturday to prepare for a government plan to send Japanese military planes to evacuate refugees fleeing the Persian Gulf war.

The mission, headed by former labor minister Toshio Yamaguchi, plans to first observe the evacuation of Vietnamese refugees from Cairo by Japanese civilian airliners and then travel on to Syria and Jordan to assess the situation of war refugees.

The government decided on Friday to send up to four Air Self-Defense Force C-130 transport planes to Cairo and use them to ferry war refugees trapped in Syria and Jordan to the Egyptian capital.

According to the Foreign Ministry, there were an estimated 4,000 war refugees in Jordan as of Tuesday, and the number is expected to surge as the Gulf war escalates into ground battle.

The Yamaguchi team is scheduled to return home on February 7, LDP officials said.

Nagasaki Mayor Contacts Iranian President on Gulf

OW2601073491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0638 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Nagasaki, Jan. 26 KYODO—Nagasaki Mayor Hiroshi Motoshima on Saturday urged Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to use his leadership to help stop the Gulf war.

In a letter to Hashemi-Rafsanjani through the Iranian Embassy in Tokyo, Motoshima said, as the mayor of a city that was atomic bombed in 1945, he was very concerned the war may be expanded and prolonged.

The mayor called on the president, who he said is a prominent leader with considerable influence, to play a major role in bringing a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Travel Advisory for Tunisia, Algeria Announced

OW2401100991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0950 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—The Foreign Ministry has advised Japanese not to travel to Tunisia and Algeria in the wake of the Persian Gulf war, officials said Thursday.

A series of anti-American and antiwar demonstrations in the two African states have raised the possibility of the security situation worsening there, officials said.

The Foreign Ministry has so far advised Japanese nationals to postpone travel to Egypt and to be cautious in visiting Turkey.

It has also urged Japanese tourists not to go to the eastern provinces of Saudi Arabia, its capital Riyadh, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Israel, Syria and the United Arab Emirates, besides Iraq and the Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Companies To Import Saudi LPG on Foreign Ships

OW2601032791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1613 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japanese companies, who have promised not to send Japanese seamen into the western Persian Gulf, will use foreign-registered and crewed ships to transport liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) from a Saudi Arabian port, government officials said Friday.

The foreign-registered ships, some of the 15 with which Japan's LPG importers and wholesalers have long-term contracts, will call on Ra's Tannurah, a Saudi port in the western part of the Persian Gulf, to load LPG for transport to Japan, the officials said.

No ships with Japanese crew members can go west of 52 degrees east longtitude in the Persian Gulf under a labor-management agreement reached shortly after the outbreak of war in the region last week.

The arrangement with the foreign tankers will help prevent a serious reduction in Japan's imports of LPG, which is already in short supply, industry sources said.

Japan's LPG stockpiles are enough for only 70 days of consumption, compared with 142 days' supply of crude oil reserves.

Japan depends on imports for about 75 percent of its LPG consumption, with 39.1 percent coming from Saudi Arabia.

The sources said the new method will enable oil companies to secure at least half their planned LPG imports from Saudi Arabia for the time being.

Firms Affected by Gulf Trade Ban File Claims

OW2401134591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1257 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Damaged by the United Nations-imposed trade embargo against Iraq and Iraq-occupied Kuwait, seven Japanese trading and manufacturing firms have filed with the government a total of 250 million yen in trade insurance claims, government officials said Thursday.

The claims have all been made in the three days since Monday, officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

The firms, who have had trouble getting payments from their trading partners in Iraq and Kuwait due to worldwide economic sanctions against Iraq, have apparently waited until recently to file their insurance claims, the officials said.

They had hoped that the crisis would be settled peacefully with Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait by the United Nations deadline of January 15, and that they could collect stalled payments for exports, they said. But the Persian Gulf war erupted on January 17 and it now seems impossible to collect the payments, even if the war ends within a short period of time, they said. The ministry expects that similar demands from other firms will rapidly increase from now on.

The trade insurance system, introduced by the ministry in 1950, is designed to guarantee large-lot trading damages resulting from international crises such as the Persian Gulf war.

According to the ministry, there is an estimated 430 billion yen worth of trade credits from Japanese firms with Iraq and 80 billion yen worth with Kuwait. Of these credits, a total of 260 billion yen worth should be paid within fiscal 1990, ending March 31.

The ministry plans to demand that the government allocate about 40 billion yen for payment of the insurance in the fiscal 1990 supplementary budget, and 8.5 billion yen more in the fiscal 1991 budget bill, the officials added.

Tokyo To Apologize to DPRK for Colonial Rule

OW2501143891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1342 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japan will formally apologize to North Korea for its prewar colonial rule of the Korean peninsula during the first round of negotiations on normalizing bilateral ties at the end of this month in Pyongyang, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

Ambassador Noboru Nakahira, head of the Japanese delegation, will make the apology when the two days of negotiations open January 30, the sources said.

The sources said the apology will be along the lines of, "Japan would like to express deep remorse and regret over past relations to all people of the Korean peninsula."

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu expressed remorse and regret over Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule of the peninsula in a personal letter to North Korean President Kim Il-song. The letter, which was delivered by former deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru in September last year, was sent by Kaifu in his capacity as president of the Liberal Democratic Party. Nakahira will quote Kaifu's remarks in his address, the sources said.

The Japanese delegation will also take up the Persian Gulf war and seek North Korea's backing for the U.S.-led multinational war effort against Iraq.

While North Korea has urged Baghdad to withdraw from Kuwait, it has also criticized the allied attack on Iraq.

Protracted Sino-Japanese Steel Talks Conclude

OW2101082191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—Major Japanese steelmakers reported Monday they have agreed to export some 500,000 tons of steel to China for shipment between March and July, unchanged from the preceding five-month period.

The steel firms, including Nippon Steel Corp., said the agreement was reached in protracted negotiations held in Beijing since last November. They said China agreed to a 2 percent hike in dollar-based prices for some categories of steel products in strong demand.

The steel companies said negotiations were prolonged because the Chinese Government has not yet decided on details of projects in the initial year of its eighth five-year plan, which started in 1991.

China earlier agreed to a substantial 10 percent price hike for seamless steel pipes to be supplied by the Japanese steelmakers for the first half of this year.

Germany's Brandt Fears Conservatism in USSR

OW2401160991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday he fears a resurgence of conservative power in the Soviet Union. Brandt made the comment during a visit to Kaifu at his official residence.

Brandt told Kaifu that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is now in a position where he cannot help but compromise with conservative elements in the country. He also indicated concern that discipline among the 350,000 Soviet soldiers remaining in the former East Germany is growing lax, with the soldiers selling their uniforms and weapons, Japanese officials said.

Brandt was pessimistic of the prospects for an early end to the Persian Gulf war, saying Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is losing the flexibility to think things through and has begun to believe that, even if he dies, he will be considered a martyr to the Arab cause.

Kaifu told Brandt that Japan is making every effort at cooperating to achieve international peace.

Brandt, in Japan to attend an international seminar, told reporters after the meeting that Germany, like Japan, will not send soldiers to the Gulf.

Hokkaido To Promote Ties With Russian Republic

OW2301184591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Sapporo, Jan. 23 KYODO—The Hokkaido Prefectural Government and economic organizations decided Wednesday to promote economic cooperation with the Russian Federation in five principal areas. The decision was made ahead of the first working-level meeting between the two sides opening in Sapporo next Monday.

The five areas will cover agriculture, forestry and fisheries, infrastructure improvement, trade, industry, and transportation and tourism.

Specifically, the decision calls for the Japanese side to dispatch an agricultural delegation to the republic and promote joint development of marine resources along the Siberian coast.

A proposal from the republic seeks Japanese cooperation in about 70 areas such as construction of thermal power plants, manufacturing factories, and roads as well as joint development of coal mines and fishery resources in Siberia.

A Russian delegation to the conference will be led by E.B. Shukrenkov, in charge of the republic's external economic relations.

Hiroshi Yamanaka, vice governor of Hokkaido, will head the Japanese delegation, which consists of representatives from the prefectural government and economic organizations in Hokkaido.

Nicaraguan President To Visit 11-14 Feb

OW2201022591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0127 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro will pay an official visit to Japan February 11-14, Foreign Ministry officials said Tuesday.

During her visit, Chamorro will meet with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and will be received in audience by Emperor Akihito, officials said. She will also visit the Diet and give a speech before the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren). It will be the first official visit to Japan by a top leader of Nicaragua, officials said.

Chamorro became leader of Nicaragua in April 1990 after defeating the leftist Sandinista Government in popular elections as head of a 14-party coalition.

The Sandinistas had ruled Nicaragua after leading a revolution that overthrew the rightist Government of Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

KDD Restores Telex Communications With Lebanon

OW2401055191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0515 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. (KDD) said Thursday it has restored full telex service between Japan and Lebanon.

The international communications carrier said it reestablished service at 9:27 AM on Wednesday.

Telex communications between the two countries were disrupted on Tuesday afternoon because of a faulty telex exchange unit in Lebanon, and were partially restored later in the day.

Diet Reconvenes 25 Jan Following New Year Recess

OW2501044791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—The 120th ordinary session of the Diet, in recess since the end of the year, reconvened Friday morning after an opening ceremony attended by Emperor Akihito in the House of Councillors Chamber.

In his address to the Diet, the emperor said it is his "earnest hope" that the Diet responds to the trust placed in it by the nation in carrying out its mission as the highest organ of national sovereignty.

Following the outbreak of the Gulf war, an emergency joint plenary session of both houses was held January 18, interrupting the new year recess which began at the end of December. The session began December 10.

Plenary sessions of both houses are scheduled for Friday afternoon. The government plans four major speeches in the Diet, including a keynote administrative policy speech by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Three days of scheduled debate in both houses begin Monday with questions from representatives of each party.

LDP Draft Platform Stresses Peacekeeping Role

OW2001082991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0802 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 20 KYODO—A newly drafted platform announced by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Sunday stresses the urgent need for legislation to allow Japan a greater role in international peacekeeping activities.

The draft platform for 1991 calls the Persian Gulf war the biggest challenge for Japan since World War II, and stresses the importance of quickly readjusting the legal system so Japan can contribute more to U.N. efforts to restore peace in troubled regions. The draft plan indicates the LDP's resolve to stir debate on constitutional revisions.

The proposal points out that the Diet debate last fall on the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill signified a new trend in which people do not simply shun the sensitive question of revising the war-renouncing constitution. The bill was, however, killed by strong objections from some opposition parties.

The LDP action plan also showed a readiness to improve relations with the Soviet Union and resolve the dispute over the Soviet occupation of four northern islands claimed by Japan. Those issues will be discussed in April when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is scheduled to visit Tokyo.

Efforts to normalize relations with North Korea, with which Japan has no diplomatic ties, should also be stepped up, it said.

The LDP draft action program expressed determination to continue opposing foreign access to Japan's rice market in the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations.

The draft platform becomes formal following its approval at the ruling party's 53rd convention at Hibiya Public Hall in central Tokyo on Thursday.

Continued efforts at political reform, victory in unified local elections this spring, including the election of more woman candidates, and land reform to curb price spirals were cited in the draft platform as the major domestic issues for the party this year.

Amnesty International on Human Rights in Japan

OW2501002791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1502 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] London, Jan. 24 KYODO—Amnesty International on Thursday called on Japan to commute all death sentences and to abolish capital punishment.

In a report on human rights in Japan, the London-based human rights organization also urged the Japanese Government to investigate reports of mistreatment of suspects at police detention facilities. According to the report, there are more than 80 people on death row in Japan. "Fifteen people are known to have been hanged in the past decade, although executions are not announced or reported in the press," the Amnesty report said.

The human rights group quoted the Japanese Government as saying that most members of the public support the death penalty "to punish those who commit vicious offenses." But Amnesty said public opposition to the death penalty would grow if people knew the facts about this "cruel and inhuman punishment."

The report criticized the practice in Japan of allowing police to question suspects for long periods at detention rooms in police stations without access to legal aid. "Our experience shows that when the police are both investigating a case and are responsible for the detention of the suspects, there is a greater risk of abuse," Amnesty said, urging that investigation and detention be handled by separate authorities.

A number of former prisoners told the group in 1989 that they had been beaten, threatened with long sentences or forced to undergo long interrogation sessions which left them exhausted or confused, the report said.

U.S. Trade Official on Access for Foreign Lawyers

OW2201082191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—United States Deputy Trade Representative Linn Williams stepped up the pressure on the Japanese Government Tuesday with a renewed call for access to Japan for foreign lawyers.

Williams, who himself spent two years working as a lawyer in Japan, told a news conference in Tokyo that the U.S. Government considers the question of access by foreign lawyers an important trade issue.

"We believe it is an impediment not to have Japanese bengoshi (lawyers) and foreign lawyers in the same firm," Williams said.

"All we are trying to do is to enable foreign firms to hire or become partners with Japanese lawyers. That's all."

Williams said U.S. negotiators meeting with their Japanese counterparts on the issue have had to overcome considerable opposition from lawyers' organizations such as the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (Nichibenren).

"There's been an awful lot of misinformation," Williams said.

"Bengoshi can hire foreign lawyers, but foreign lawyers here can not hire bengoshi. We think that's discriminatory."

Williams said the U.S. wants to give Japanese lawyers the freedom to choose whether or not they want to work for foreign law firms in Japan. Current Japanese laws forbid foreign lawyers from hiring Japanese lawyers as well as from forming partnerships.

Williams said the U.S. is treating the matter as a trade issue because of the barriers the Japanese laws pose to foreign firms wishing to become established in Japan. He said current laws assist Japanese firms operating overseas, but hinder cost-conscious small or medium-sized foreign firms wishing to get legal advice before moving into the Japanese market.

"We believe that having a mixed firm of foreign and Japanese lawyers will improve two-way trade," he said.

"We believe this mix is an essential part of internationalization and internationalization is particularly important in Japan in the current trade environment."

Williams said foreign firms should be able to hire lawyers of their own choosing in Japan in the same way Japanese firms do when operating overseas. Williams said the U.S. is not yet contemplating retaliatory action over the issue. He said he could see no direct evidence of "stonewalling" by the Japanese side and hopes to be able to set a date soon for government-level talks on the issue.

Japan and the U.S. met in December for two days of talks on opening the country's legal market to foreign lawyers, but the talks ended without agreement.

U.S. Says Trade Imbalance 'Staggeringly Large'

OW2201123291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1144 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—U.S. senior trade officials Tuesday renewed the call for structural changes on the part of Japan to sustain the recent improvement in the bilateral trade imbalance.

In a press conference after a two-day subcabinet-level meeting to discuss a variety of economic matters, Undersecretary of State Richard T. MacCormack said that despite the improvement just announced by the Finance Ministry, the bilateral trade imbalance remains "staggeringly large." He said there is a need to put into place "structural changes ... To make this kind of trade imbalance improvement which is occurring sustainable over the medium term."

The Finance Ministry earlier in the day announced Japan's trade surplus with the United States narrowed 15.4 percent in 1990 from the year before to 38 billion dollars.

Michael Farren, undersecretary of commerce for international trade, pointed out that there is still little sign of surging imports of manufactured products from the U.S.

At the same press conference the U.S. side stressed that the current Uruguay Round of multilateral talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will not succeed without an agreement on the farm issue.

The U.S. officials said the farm issue is important for the selling of any GATT pact to Congress and the U.S. agricultural constituency as well as to developing countries, whose primary interests are in agriculture.

Toshiba Buys Stake in U.S. Semiconductor Firm

OW2201062191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0605 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Toshiba Corp. said Tuesday it has purchased a 10 percent equity stake in the United States chipmaker Synergy Semiconductor Corp.

Toshiba said the purchase would enable it to expand its application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) business for chips used in supercomputers, workstations, and telecommunications equipment.

Officials said Toshiba would not disclose the exact figures of the investment. They said the alliance will blend Toshiba's capabilities and experience in ASIC products with Synergy's emitter-coupled logic (ECL) areas and bipolar complementary metal oxide semiconductor (BICMOS) technologies.

Under the agreement, Toshiba will obtain access to Synergy's advanced ECL and BICMOS process technologies known as "asset" and develop gate arrays and standard cell ICs. Gate arrays are on and off microelectronic switches used in chips, while cells are storage units in semiconductors.

At the same time, Synergy will expand from its leadership in memory and logic products to produce high performance ASIC's.

The Santa Clara, California-based company will also benefit from Toshiba ASIC business expertise, large volume production support, and capital. Both companies will work together on the development of ECL and E-BICMOS (based on an ECL structure), ASIC libraries and, computer-aided design (CAD), the officials said.

The CMOS-based ASICS have captured a major part of the world ASIC market because of their lower power consumption, heat dissipation, and higher integration density than bipolar devices. But recent demand for ECL and BICMOS devices has been soaring because computer makers require chips with faster operating speeds.

The market for these technologies is expected to grow annually by 32 percent for several years. Estimated at 1.6 billion dollars in 1990, it is expected to reach 6.4 dollars in 1995, the officials said.

Toshiba plans to build production lines for ECL and E-BICMOS ASICS in Japan in the near future, they said.

Shipments of new bipolar ECL gate arrays will start in 1992, while E-BICMOS gate arrays and standard cells will be ready by 1993 or later, they said.

U.S. Requests Extension of Semiconductor Pact

OW2301161391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—The United States has unofficially asked Japan to extend for another five years the bilateral agreement to open the Japanese market more to American-made semiconductors, government sources said Wednesday.

The request came in line with the call made last October by U.S. computer and semiconductor industries to President George Bush to negotiate a new five-year chip pact with Japan.

The proposal, made by the Semiconductor Industry Association [SIA], which represents chip makers, and the computer systems policy project, which groups 11 leading U.S. computer manufacturers, is based on their complaint that Japan has failed to live up to its commitment to guarantee U.S. manufacturers 20 percent of the

Japanese chip market by 1991. There is, however, disagreement about the terms of the 1986 accord, which expires in July this year.

Although U.S. officials insist they received verbal promises from Tokyo that U.S. producers would eventually get a 20 percent share, the accompanying letter cites the number only as a goal.

An official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) denied that the ministry has received any official request from the U.S. over the issue. "The objectives of the agreement have been met and we cannot make any promise on the U.S. share," the official said.

Besides an increase of foreign share in the Japanese chip market, the original agreement includes investigation by the U.S. Commerce Department into allegations that Japanese computer makers were dumping their products in the U.S. and allows the Department to post price guidelines for chip imports.

The U.S. retaliated in March 1987 over alleged Japanese violations of the 1986 agreement, imposing 100 percent import tariffs on some 300 million dollars worth of Japanese electronics products and appliances.

Those sanctions were reduced a few months later, after Japan complied with the provisions prohibiting predatory pricing. But about half of the U.S. sanctions still remain in effect.

According to SIA estimates, the U.S. share of the Japanese chip market rose to 12.5 percent in the first half of 1990 from 11.5 percent a year earlier.

Tokyo To Extend Construction Talks With U.S.

OW2401134291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Japan and the United States will extend talks aimed at opening Japan's protected construction market to foreign companies, as the positions of the two sides remained apart, government sources said Thursday.

The two countries were still divided on the second day of the talks, over a U.S. request that a 1988 bilateral agreement to open up Japan's 14 major public works projects to foreign competitors be extended to all such projects.

Though some progress has been made over other issues such as clarification of bidding procedures, Japan is seemingly refusing to budge on the specific request, making it the biggest obstacle to reaching agreement, the sources said. The talks, designed to review the accord known as the 1988 major projects agreement, were due to finish Thursday.

Negotiators, including J. Michael Farren, U.S. undersecretary of commerce for international trade, and Sadayuki Hayashi, the Foreign Ministry's Economic Affairs Bureau chief, still want to compile a report to finish the review, which has stretched over five rounds of talks since May last year.

If the review fails to find Japan has opened its construction market to U.S. companies, Washington must decide by May whether to take retaliatory action against Japan as required by the U.S. 1988 Omnibus Trade Act.

Mieno Denies Plan To Lower Interest Rates

OW2201013791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0109 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] New York, Jan. 21 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno on Monday brushed aside any immediate easing in monetary policy despite a communique issued by the Group of Seven (G-7) finance officials which pointed to benefits accompanying lower global interest rates.

Speaking at a press conference following the G-7 gathering, Mieno said he told his G-7 colleagues that he would continue the present policy of watching the effects of past interest-rate hikes.

The G-7 finance ministers and central bank governors said in their communique that "implementation of sound fiscal policies, combined with stability-oriented monetary policies, should create conditions favorable to lower global interest rates and a stronger world economy."

Mieno said the G-7 statement does not mean that the G-7 nations are required to lower interest rates at this moment.

The G-7 nations are made up of the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

The BOJ has raised the official discount rate it charges commercial banks five times since May 1989, bringing it from 2.5 percent to 6 percent at present.

Mieno said Japan's tight monetary policy remains unchanged as the underlying strength of the economy continues firm and the price situation remains stable. Mieno was accompanied at the press conference by Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

Reviewing discussions at the G-7 meeting, Hashimoto said the G-7 nations have not yet reached a consensus on the issue of aid to the Soviet Union, in the wake of the Soviet crackdown in Lithuania and Latvia. Hashimoto also noted that Soviet participation in the International Monetary Fund and World Bank was not among major topics at the G-7 get-together.

The Soviet Union wants to join the IMF and World Bank to get access to financing from the international lending agencies.

U.S. President George Bush has proposed giving a special status to the Soviet Union at the IMF and World Bank, but some G-7 officials said recent tensions in the Baltic republics may make the G-7 nations less disposed toward such a move.

The G-7 nations have decisive power in voting at the two international organizations.

MITI Minister Calls for Nuclear Fuel Cycle

OW2301034391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0313 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—A call from International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Eiichi Nakao on Wednesday for further efforts to establish a nuclear fuel cycle was supported by Japanese electric power industry leaders, government officials said.

Nakao said in a meeting with the heads of major electric power companies that steady development of nuclear power generation is indispensable for securing a stable, long-term electricity supply, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry officials reported. Nakao argued this requires early establishment of a nuclear fuel cycle consisting of enriched uranium production, recycling of spent fuel, and reservation of low-level radioactive waste.

In response, Sho Nasu, president of Tokyo Electric Power Co. and chairman of the Federation of Electric Power Companies, said the utilities companies will make every effort to promote nuclear power generation and establish the cycle. Nasu stressed the importance of recycling spent fuel.

Japan lacks the facilities for a nuclear fuel cycle, and has been dependent on countries with advanced nuclear technology, like the U.S., France, and Britain, for uranium enrichment and fuel recycling.

The utilities firms are building the facility for a cycle in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture. Nasu said he has great interest in the election for governor of Aomori, scheduled for February 3.

Nakao also called on the electric power suppliers to sustain their energy-saving efforts through streamlining for as long as possible.

Farmers' Rice Sales to Government 'Very Slow'

OW2401134191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1303 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Japanese farmers' sales to the government of rice produced in 1990 have been very slow, reaching 1.62 million tons as of January 10, government officials said Thursday.

At this pace, sales to the government by the deadline of May will total only 1.65-1.7 million tons, about 80 percent of the 2.1 million ton target, the officials said. The tonnage would then be well below the 1.86 million ton target for farmers' sales of rice to private enterprises for supply to general consumers and rice-using businesses, officials at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said. The officials attributed this partly to a poor crop in the Kyushu District, caused by typhoons. The farmers' preference to sell rice to private rice-handling businesses which buy rice at much higher prices than the government was another factor, they added.

Last year's limited opening of Japan's rice market to domestic interests and the poor record in government purchases of rice are likely to pose new problems for the existing government purchase system, trade sources said.

Hitachi To Begin Shipments of 4-Megabit Chip

OW2401143491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0908 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Hitachi Ltd. said Thursday it will begin sample shipments of 24 versions of 4-megabit static random access memories (SRAMS) this March.

The new, high-speed chip has an access time of between 55-100 nanoseconds and holds four times the memory capacity of a 1-megabit SRAM device. A nanosecond is equal to one-billionth of a second.

Officials said the chip also packs more than 25,000 elements such as transistors and resistors on a 116 square millimeter silicon base using the company's 16-megabit dynamic random access memory (DRAM) photo-etching technique.

Company officials said the sample memory devices will start at a price of 70,000 yen.

The devices will be ideal as data storage devices used in notebook and personal computers because they can retain data in memory longer, even when electric power is cut, officials said.

A SRAM can retain information longer and has a faster access time than the more widely used dynamic access memories or DRAM chips.

Ethylene Production Rises 3.7 Percent in 1990

OW2401144091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Japan's ethylene production last year rose 3.7 percent from the previous year to a record high of 5,899,000 tons, an industry association reported Thursday.

Production costs of ethylene, the material of petrochemical products, jumped 25 percent from 1989 due to price hikes in naphtha, the Japan Petrochemical Industry Association said.

Since the eruption of the Persian Gulf crisis in early August, increases in cost were notable, along with hikes in crude oil prices, but domestic ethylene demand remained strong, especially among automobile and home electric appliance manufacturers, the association said.

Ethylene output in 1991 could amount to six million tons if the Gulf war is settled in a short period of time, the association added.

Consumer Price Index Sets Nine-Year High in 1990

OW2501022491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0142 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japan's average consumer price index (CPI) in 1990 set a nine-year high, jumping 3.1 percent from 1989, the Management and Coordination Agency said Friday.

It was the sharpest rise since the 4.9 percent in 1981. The figure was 0.7 percent in 1988, and in 1989 the introduction of the consumption tax pushed the index up by 2.3 percent. The agency said the main cause of the jump was higher prices of raw foods, especially fresh vegetables, due to bad weather.

The labor shortage led to higher service costs as the nation enjoyed a steady economic expansion, and the cheaper Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar in the first half of the year and rising fuel prices due to costlier oil also had an effect, it said. The CPI for 1990 stood at 106.9 against 100 in 1985.

Meanwhile, the CPI in the Tokyo area in January surged 4.2 percent on a year-on-year basis, the agency said in a preliminary report. This was the biggest jump since December 1981, when the figure was 4.3 percent, snapping two consecutive months of milder inflation since November. It was also 0.9 percent higher than the December figure, when the increase was 3.7 percent. The agency attributed the rise mostly to higher fresh vegetable and fruit prices, mainly caused by bad weather last year and increases in demand due to year-end seasonal factors.

The CPI in the Tokyo metropolitan area stood at 111.0 against the base of 100 in 1985. The Tokyo CPI is considered a leading indicator of national consumer prices, although it is far less affected by prices of oil-related products, compared with that of the entire nation. Without fresh foods, the index came to 109.9, rising 0.1 percent from December and 3.4 percent from a year before.

An Economic Planning Agency (EPA) official was optimistic that the increase was a temporary phenomenon and that further hikes are unlikely.

The national consumer price index in December, meanwhile, gained 3.8 percent on a year-on-year basis, but edged down 0.3 percent from November. The CPI stood at 108.6 against 100.

The agency said the drop stemmed from a relaxing of inflation in fresh vegetables and fruits.

Without raw foods, the index came to 108.7, up 0.2 percent from November. It was a 3.3 percent rise on a year-on-year basis. The index was 0.2 percent higher than the month before at seasonally adjusted 109.0. When fresh foods were excluded, the figure was 108.6, marking a 0.3 percent increase from November.

Trade Surplus Down 13.2 Percent From 1989

OW2201075091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0730 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Japan had a 5,388.48 million dollar trade surplus in December, down 13.2 percent from a year earlier, the Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report Tuesday.

Exports grew 14.7 percent from the year before to 28,291.13 million dollars and imports rose 24.2 percent to 22,902.65 million dollars, the ministry said.

Japan posted a 3,486 million dollar trade surplus with the United States in December, down 9.1 percent from a year before.

In 1990 Japan had a trade surplus of 52.4 billion dollars, down 18.6 percent from the previous year.

The nation's trade surplus with the U.S. in 1990 fell 15.4 percent to 38,024 million dollars.

Vehicle Production Posts Record High in 1990

OW2501073991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0446 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japan's production of cars, buses and trucks totaled a record 13,486,796 vehicles in 1990, up 3.5 percent from the previous year, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association announced Friday.

It was the third consecutive yearly increase.

Exports declined by about 1 percent, but the drop was offset by strong domestic demand, which jumped 9.9 percent to a record 7,777,493 vehicles last year.

Reportage on Nakayama's Moscow Visit

WA2401043291

For coverage of Nakayama's visit to Moscow, including talks with USSR President Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Bessmertynkh, and other Soviet officials, see the Northeast Asia section of the 24 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Statement on Team Spirit

SK2601103791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Statement by the DPRK Foreign Ministry on 26 January in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The United States and the South Korean people in authority have announced that they would conduct the aggressive Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise again this year in defiance of the unanimous protest of all Korean people and the peace-loving people of the world.

The decision of the United States and the South Korean people in authority to wage this adventurous military exercise is an intolerable challenge to our Republic and people, who have exerted every sincere effort to guarantee durable peace on the Korean peninsula and set a precondition for peaceful reunification. It is an unpardonable criminal act of reversing the situation on the Korean peninsula, which is on the way to detente, and of plunging the North and the South into the whirlwind of the aggravation of tension and confrontation once again.

Now is the time for the world's attention to be focused on the Korean peninsula as a place where the ice of confrontation and division, which had been thickly frozen between North and South Korea, has begun to melt and the spirit of reunification has grown.

In our country last year, high-level talks between the North and the South were held for the first time in the history of division, and compatriots from all social strata, who had long been deadlocked, met in Pyongyang, in Seoul, and abroad. They held festivals of dialogue and reunification, thus giving the entire nation joy and causing it to look forward to the dawn of reunification.

To say nothing of our people, the peace-loving people of the world eagerly hope that in this year, too, in the wake of the first year of the nineties, smooth progress will be made and that an outcome will be reached in high-level talks and other North-South dialogue. Thus, an epoch-making turn will be effected in the peaceful reunification of the country as a result of the continuation of a favorable atmosphere of rapprochement and national unity.

At this juncture, no one who is interested in durable peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification should allow himself to run counter to the aspirations of the people and the tenor of the times.

In view of the precedent in which hard-won North-South dialogue in various areas was suspended in a moment and when distrust and confrontation returned, as they were every year due to the Team Spirit joint military exercise, we have strongly raised to the United States and the South Korean authorities the issue of suspending the Team Spirit joint military exercise as an acute pending issue which must be urgently settled. Also, we have even made a compromise proposal to temporarily discontinue the exercise for two or three years, during which high-level North-South talks will be under way, if they cannot completely stop the exercise.

This proposal of ours is a clear manifestation of the Republic's consistent stand of trying to remove the state of political and military confrontation from the Korean peninsula at any rate and to pioneer the way for peace and peaceful reunification through dialogue and negotiation.

The people of the world, who are deeply interested in solving the problem of the Korean peninsula, have expected that so long as the United States says that it welcomes North-South dialogue and contact, it will not wage the Team Spirit joint exercise this year in conformity with the situation of the Korean peninsula, which is on the way to detente.

However, the United States has blighted these hopes and expectations and in the first month of the new year has kicked up the row that they would push ahead with the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

Having habitually clamored that North-South dialogue is basic in solving the problem of Korea, the United States and the South Korean people in authority have persistently turned away from our repeated demands and have invariably decided to push ahead with the Team Spirit joint military exercise against the partner of dialogue. This is nothing but an undisguised racket of military confrontation aimed at ruining high-level North-South talks by barring progress in the talks. Also, this openly exposes their foolish attempt to achieve reunification through victory over communism even by the method of force if their strategy of peaceful transition, which was designed to obliterate the socialist system of our Republic, does not work.

The DPRK Government and the Korean people sternly denounce the reckless war exercise commotion of the United States and the South Korean people in authority as a grave act of destroying dialogue and peace in Korea and peace in Asia and the world.

The Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is precisely a test nuclear war with our northern half of the Republic as a target of its attack.

As shown by the previous Team Spirit joint military exercises, the United States has openly posed a nuclear threat to us, actually putting in motion numerous nuclear weapons, deployed in South Korea, through these military exercises. Because of these maneuvers, an emergency situation, in which a nuclear war may break out, is being created in our country this year, too.

On the contrary, the United States has put aside this stark reality and has forced us to sign a nuclear safety accord, talking about our nonexistent nuclear development.

The United States is committing such an act out of the brigandish logic that even though it can sharpen nuclear swords for global conquest, such non-nuclear countries as our country must not even present the issue of removing nuclear threats and must accede to nuclear threats by the United States. It is also doing so in an effort to find preposterous pretexts to complete preparations for war on the Korean peninsula.

Even while babbling that the cold war has finished and that the era of peace has come, the United States is continuously conducting adventurous nuclear war exercises. This clearly shows that the imperialists' aggressive nature and their ulterior motive of threatening small countries by way of force and militarily conquering them have not changed at all. Before urging us to sign a nuclear safeguards agreement, the United States must remove its nuclear threat against us.

The current Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is all the more grave because it is being conducted at the same time South Korea has kicked up commotions against us more viciously than ever since the Gulf war broke out. When the Gulf war broke out, the South Korean authorities babbled about the nonexistent threats of a southward invasion by us and declared that an emergency wartime system would be established. They have also inspired North-South confrontation and have aggravated tension. This clearly shows their bellicose and divisionist colors.

It is a well-known fact that early this year, we advanced a new broad-based proposal for providing conditions for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification and that we also presented the issue of adopting a nonaggression declaration as a practical measure to ease tension. We have made all efforts toward this end. Nevertheless, as soon as the Gulf war broke out, they have babbled as if we may launch a strike. They have kicked up commotions against us. This is nothing but a mean act designed to justify their persistent opposition to the adoption of a nonaggression declaration. The reckless act by the South Korean authorities cannot be interpreted otherwise than as a deliberate maneuver to provoke another war in Korea in the 1990's, following one in the 1950's, along with the United States, which has become more arrogant and uncourteous since a balance of power was destroyed in the international relations.

Even through they have shown no sincerity in talks with us, the South Korean authorities have begged for foreign intervention and have even started war commotions against their fellow countrymen. This is the clear manifestation of their toadyist and treacherous antipeace, antireunification, and antidialogue acts.

All the facts clearly show that the United States and the South Korean authorities are not interested in North-South dialogue, that they are trying to reject and frustrate dialogue, and that they are pursuing war, not peace, on the Korean peninsula. If they sincerely want peace and dialogue in Korea, the United States and the South Korean authorities must immediately stop the aggressive Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise.

Our people will watch the reckless war exercise commotions by the United States and the South Korean authorities with high vigilance and will take necessary measures in response to them. If they provoke a war of aggression against our Republic, they will pay dearly. The United States and the South Korean authorities will never be able to escape their grave responsibility for leading the North-South dialogue to a crisis and aggravating tension on the Korean Peninsula by starting the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise.

The DPRK Government expresses its firm belief that the governments and people of the world's peace-loving countries, international organizations, peace-loving organizations, and people from all social strata who oppose war and that love peace, will pay special attention to the situation on the Korean peninsula. They will oppose the maneuvers by the United States and the South Korean authorities to provoke a new war and will further support and encourage our people's just cause for stable peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification.

[Dated] 26 January 1991, Pyongyang

KCNA Cites Team Spirit Statement

SK2601113191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 26 (KCNA)—The Korean people strongly demand the immediate discontinuation of the aggressive "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities and will watch with high vigilance their reckless military exercises and take necessary steps against them, said the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in its statement issued today.

If they unleash a war of aggression against our Republic, they will have to pay dearly for this, warned the statement. The government of the DPRK and the Korean people bitterly condemn the reckless "Team Spirit 91" war exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities as a grave act wrecking dialogue and peace in Korea and peace in Asia and the rest of the world, the statement said, and continued:

The decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to stage this adventurous war game is an intolerable challenge to our Republic and people who have made every sincere effort to ensure a durable peace on the Korean peninsula and create preconditions for its peaceful reunification and an unpardonable criminal act to turn back the situation of the Korean peninsula heading for detente and plunge the North and the South into another vortex of tension and confrontation.

The United States and the South Korean authorities decided to force the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises against the dialogue partner. This is an undisguised military confrontation campaign intended to drop the checkbar on the way of the North-South High-Level Talks and thus break it up.

The United States, practically setting in motion many pieces of nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea through the military exercises, while shunning this stark reality, is trying to force us to sign the nuclear safeguards agreement with outcries over the fictious nuclear development by us.

The U.S. act is based on its brigandish argument that it can sharpen its nuclear stick for world supremacy, while a non-nuclear state like ours must not raise even the problem of removing the nuclear threat but yield to the nuclear threat of the United States.

The United States must remove its nuclear threat to us before demanding that we sign the nuclear safeguards agreement.

The South Korean authorities raised a row against the North right after the outbreak of the Gulf war, spreading rumours that the North would invade the South. This is a despicable act to justify their act in having desperately opposed the adoption of a nonaggression declaration.

The United States and the South Korean authorities cannot shirk the heavy responsibility for leading the North-South dialogue again to a crisis and aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula by launching the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises.

The DPRK Government expresses the belief that the governments and peoples of the world peace-loving countries, international organizations and peace-loving organizations and figures of all strata that oppose war and love peace will direct their attention to the situation on the Korean peninsula and extend more active support and encouragement to our people in their just cause of a durable peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification against the new war provocation manoeuvres of the United States and South Korean authorities.

Timing of Team Spirit Criticized

SK2701012891 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are further running wild in preparing for a war against the northern half of the Republic, timing it with the outbreak of the war in the Gulf.

The U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring announced that the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise, which is a preliminary war and nuclear test war against the northern half of the Republic, will be conducted from 25 January to the end of April.

During this period, the rascals are trying to stage a criminal war exercise on a large scale in order to carry out a preemptive attack on the northern half of the Republic, by introducing into South Korea enormous amounts of murder equipment and military forces from the U.S. mainland and the U.S. imperialists' overseas bases.

For this reason, once again, the black cloud of nuclear war is being brought into the Korean peninsula. Furthermore, the situation is pushing toward the brink of a war under extreme tension.

In the meantime, the U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring run wild in military exercises to attack us from the air, the seas, and the ground.

On 17 January, when war broke out in the Gulf, the rascals mobilized approximately 100 planes, and conducted an exercise to carry out a preemptive attack on the inland areas of the northern half of the Republic.

The same day, in the sky above the various South Korean districts, including Yoju, Kyonggi Province, planes flew all day long, thus creating a strained atmosphere.

Aerial exercises have also been conducted in succession, besides those on 18, 19, 20 January. In addition, these exercises have been conducted over a wide range, by mobilizing aerial [word indistinct] based in the U.S. imperialists' bases in the Pacific regions and in Japan.

Fighter-bombers, vertical take-off assault planes, (?observation planes), aerial refueling planes, and other planes of various types have been deployed into Yoju. This reminds us that the aerial war exercises by the U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring are never a simple exercise.

In particular, what cannot be overlooked is that the U.S. imperialists and their stooges let a large number of planes fly, and conducted aerial operation exercises on seizing an (?area). And, they are crazily conducting commando-dropping exercises simulating a northward invasion in the sky above various districts, including Chunchon.

The U.S. imperialists constantly conduct air transportation exercises of operational equipment from their overseas aggression bases. Thus, they nakedly reveal that they are accelerating a war exercise in preparation for a real war.

The U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring are running wild in a war exercise on the ground and at sea too.

On 23 January, the rascals conducted a war exercise, while moving and deploying tens of 105-mm cannons around the areas of Chindong-myon, Paju County, near the military demarcation line. In addition, they conducted a long attack operational exercise by mobilizing military forces armed with automatic weapons and combat equipment in Paegnyon-ri Kugnae-myon, and in Kumsan-ri, Tanhyon-myon in Paju County.

Prior to this, between 16 and 21 January, the rascals mobilized cannons of various types around areas in Samildong, Paju County, fired hundreds of bullets, thus publicly provoking our side.

And, in the seas around Paengnyong Island and Taechong Island, the rascals mobilized combat ships and fired shells from naval guns; covered the seas near the territorial waters with the smoke of cannon, and perpetrated the grave military provocation of infiltrating combat ships deep into our side's territorial waters. This proves that the rascals' moves for a northward war is entering a more reckless stage.

Timed with the outbreak of the war in the Gulf, the U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring barely reveal their ambition for a northward invasion, while resorting to a very dangerous racket of playing with fire. They should clearly know that this only precipitates their own destruction.

South's Gulf Plans Called 'War Preparations'

SK2501160491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities held a meeting of "chief inspectors" of puppet ministries, boards and offices on Jan. 23 and ordered them to "strengthen the position of an all-out confrontation" and "launch a thrift and frugality campaign" among the people in connection with the Gulf war, a radio report from Seoul said.

The authorities threatened that they would "take measures of severe punishment" against the chiefs of organs who fail to positively approach the Gulf war.

This is part of the criminal moves of the authorities to strictly place the "civil servants" on wartime alert and drive them out in war preparations against the North and crackdown on the people under the pretext of the Gulf war.

Paper Warns of North-South Dialogue 'Collapse'

SK2701090091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 27 Jan 91

["Joint Manoeuvres Fraught With Grave Danger"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers, if they are truly interested in peace and detente in Korea, should promptly stop the "Team Spirit 91" joint war game which is bringing dark clouds of war and laying high hurdles in the way of North-South dialogues, urges MINJU CHOSON today.

Hitting hard at the "Team Spirit 91" manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities, the news analyst says:

In staging the "Team Spirit 91" the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities pursue the criminal aim of leading the situation in Korea to the extreme pitch of strain and driving North-South dialogues to a collapse.

The South Korean authorities are staging the "Team Spirit" this year again jointly with the U.S. imperialists, far from showing an affirmative response to our just proposal for the discontinuation of the war game at the North-South High-Level Talks. This is a downright challenge to us.

This patently proves once again that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are seeking war, not peace, and confrontation, not dialogue in Korea.

There are ample possibilities that they might invade the northern half of Korea by surprise while staging the "Team Spirit 91" exercises.

The U.S. imperialists are staging the massive war game in South Korea though they are facing a difficult phase in the Gulf war, bumping into a stubborn resistance of the adversary, in spite of the formidable Armed Forces they have thrown into it. This is graphic proof that they are still seeking on the Korean peninsula the ignition point of a war for the establishment of their domination over Asia.

Should the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities persist in their rash war racket, defying our repeated warnings, they would be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising from this, warns the commentary.

People Urged To Fight 'Imperialist Policies'

SK2701091291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 27 Jan 91

["Imperialism Is the Very One That Jeopardizes Peace, Says NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 27 (KCNA)—Imperialism is the very one that jeopardizes peace, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today, adding that world peace can be ensured only when the world revolutionary people resolutely fight against the imperialists' policies of aggression and war under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"The reality shows us that the aggressive and predatory nature of imperialism has not changed at all and that it is imperialism and none other that is the ringleader who is menacing peace and creating difficulties and confusion in the people's struggle for independence, sovereignty and socialism."

In order to avert war and defend peace, it is necessary to realize disarmament, eliminate nuclear weapons and withdraw aggression forces and aggressive military bases from the territories of other countries. The imperialists, however, are increasing the tensions by putting spurs on arms race. The U.S. imperialists, in particular, are expanding armaments and hastening the development and production of nuclear weapons while making up for the reduction of nuclear weapons of one kind with the modernization of nuclear arms of another kind and with the production of sophisticated mass destruction weapons.

At present, more than 20,000 nuclear warheads and thousands of nuclear delivery means are deployed in some 5,700 military bases and installations ubiquitous in the world including the U.S. mainland.

The U.S. imperialists are unwilling to withdraw their forces present abroad, raving that they are discharging the mission of defending "peace" as a "deterrent."

Aggressive military alliance is an important lever in the execution of their war policies. The threat of war will never disappear and peace cannot be ensured as long as it exists.

The U.S. imperialists intend to maintain NATO on unreasonable pretexts and continue to supply military equipment to their allies. They have framed up and are strengthening the triangular military alliance system in Northeast Asia amd scheming to knock into shape a NATO-type new military alliance in the Middle East.

War games staged by them in different regions are one of the main factors that threaten peace.

The U.S. imperialists are unhesitatingly committing armed invasion of sovereign countries. They occupied Grenada and Panama by force of arms, committed a military terrorism on Libya and are now escalating the war in the Gulf region.

That imperialism is the very one that jeopardizes peace is well illustrated by the U.S. imperialists' aggressive and belligerent moves on the Korean peninsula, the article says, and goes on:

Setting South Korea as "the frontline base or the U.S. strategy," the U.S. imperialists are trying to use it as a stronghold to make a breakthrough in gratifying their wild ambition for world domination. Urged by this aim, they are systematically reinforcing their armed forces present in South Korea and expanding and replenishing military bases, frantically staging aerial war games aimed at mounting a nuclear preemptive attack from the air and are engaged in military provocation against us of late.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, this year, too, are staging "Team Spirit" joint military exercises from January 25.

The situation on the Korean peninsula is becoming ever more strained due to the U.S. imperialists' moves. Facts clearly tell that it is U.S. imperialism and none other that jeopardizes peace.

Pyongyang Reports Iraqi Attack on Allied Forces

SK2701053191 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] According to foreign news reports, the Iraqi missile units and airplanes are striking the multinational forces, constantly repelling the raids by the multinational forces led by the United States.

It is said that yesterday the Iraqi antiaircraft defense units defeated mechanized units in the areas bordering Iraq and Kuwait and repelled raids on Basra and other southeastern cities by the U.S. Forces and multinational forces.

COMBAT INFORMATION of the Iraqi forces, in its 19th issue, revealed that the Iraqi antiaircraft defense unit counterattacked the multinational forces' offensives on 25 occasions, shooting down seven airplanes and intercepting missiles.

The Iraqi News Agency reported that since the war in the Gulf broke out, Iraq has shot down the 235 planes of the multinational forces and intercepted missiles.

Revealing that the Iraqi missile troops launched five Scud missiles at Riyadh and other areas on 23 January, the spokesman of the U.S. Forces said that Iraq has so far launched 22 Scud missile attacks on the military bases of the multinational forces led by the United States and on various other areas. The British BBC radio reported that the Iraqi Mirage F-1 airplanes attacked the warships of the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf.

According to the Iraqi News Agency, on 23 January President Saddam Husayn went around the operational districts in the southern front line, and met with commanders and members of the General Headquarters there. Saying that the multinational forces led by the United States are avoiding a ground battle, Saddam Husayn added that those killed by the enemies' attacks, which number (10,000) as of 22 January, are a mere 90 persons.

Warning that the enemies will soon repent of what they did, he said that the Iraqi people are resolved to win a victory in the fight against their enemies, as their ancestors did.

Today Baghdad radio reported that President Saddam Husayn presided over a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council and the Iraqi district leading members of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party.

Soviet Figure Comments on Military Cooperation

SK2501120991 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] In a talk with a broadcasting reporter from Moscow, Konstantin Kochetov, first deputy minister of defense of the Soviet Union, who recently visited our country, talked about the issue of developing military cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union.

He said that military cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union is being developed in a stable way.

He continued to talk about his impression of Korea during his visit and said: "I could not but show admiration for the high degree of training of the soldiers in the Korean Army. The highly disciplined character, patriotism, and enthusiasm attracted my attention. What impressed me most of all was the Koreans' friendly reception of the Soviet people. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Korean people. I hope that there will be great results for the Korean people and the soldiers."

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Indian President

SK2501113191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to President R. Venkataraman of the Republic of India on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the foundation of the Republic.

President Kim Il-song says in the message that after the founding of the Republic the Indian people have made great strides forward on the road of building a new life and are striving hard to promote the national unity and build a new modernized India.

Believing that the friendly and cooperative relations existing between Korea and India will grow stronger and develop in conformity with the interests of the two peoples, President Kim Il-song wishes the Indian president and people success in their work for the independent development and prosperity of the country.

Yon Hyong-muk Sends Message to Lao Counterpart

SK2501111991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA)—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of condolence to his Lao counterpart Kaysone Phomvihan on the death of Sali Vongkhamsao, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Upon receiving the sad news of Sali Vongkhamsao's death, I express deep condolences to the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Lao people and the bereaved family, said the message.

Kim Yong-nam Greets New Peruvian Counterpart

SK1501105691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Raul Sanchez Sotomayor upon his appointment as minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Peru.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will further develop in the interests of the two peoples, the message wishes him great success in his responsible work.

Kim Il-song Sends Condolences to King of Norway

SK2101105991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on Jan. 19 sent a message of condolence to Norwegian King Harald the Fifth on the death of Norwegian King Olav the Fifth.

The message expresses deep condolences to Harald the Fifth upon hearing the unhappy news that His Majesty Olav the Fifth passed away after a long illness.

Kim Il-song Greets Uganda's Yoweri Museveni

SK2501111891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings today to Yoweri Museveni, chairman of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) of Uganda, on the fifth anniversary of the victory of the movement.

Comrade Kim Il-song noted that the NRM of Uganda under the correct leadership of Yoweri Museveni has registered enormous achievements in the efforts to achieve national unity and stability and build an independent national economy against imperialism and colonialism.

The Workers' Party of Korea, he continued, is sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the NRM of Uganda and expresses firm solidarity with the just cause of the NRM for the building of a new Uganda, independent and prosperous.

He expressed the belief that the excellent friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would grow stronger and develop and wished Yoweri Museveni success in his work to strengthen the NRM and achieve the independent development of the country.

Delegations Leave for Uganda, Germany

SK2101110291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Choe Ki-yong, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Education Commission to participate in the celebrations of the 5th anniversary of the victory of the national resistance movement of Uganda and a DPRK economic delegation headed by Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs to visit Germany left Pyongyang today by air.

'Special Article' on Role, Duty of Intellectuals

SK2501130091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0015 GMT 18 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 18 January Special Article: "Our Intellectuals Are Eternal Companions of Our Party"]

[Text] Today our intellectuals are vigorously growing up to become genuine communist revolutionaries of chuche type amid the party's great trust and considerations. The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a reply letter to all members of the Korean Literature Production recently. In the letter he taught that they should become eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors for the party. This is an expression of his great trust in and warm love toward all of our intellectuals who have vigorously traversed the rewarding road of the revolution together with the party. The party's eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors! This is the unequalled, noble, and honorable title that only our intellectuals—who are building the most superior socialism, holding the great leader in high esteem and under the wise leadership of the party—can have.

All of our intellectuals are now filled with the burning determination to resolutely defend and devotedly uphold the party cause under any difficult circumstances, while cherishing deep in their hearts the party's great trust of having bestowed this precious title upon them.

1. Our Intellectuals Are the Revolutionary Intellectuals Who Have the Noblest Ideological and Mental Features, Which Can Never Be Found Among the Intellectuals of Any Past Era.

As taught by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, intellectuals are not only a composition group of the main force of the revolution, but are also the driving force for the revolutionary struggle and for the development of society. Without revolutionary intellectuals, neither the work of building firm revolutionary ranks by awakening the broad segments of the masses nor difficult and vast tasks which arise in economic and cultural construction can be successfully carried out. For intellectuals to outstandingly perform such roles in the revolutionary struggle and the development of society, they should not only prepare themselves scientifically and technologically, but should also have sound political and ideological features.

Our intellectuals are those who have their own characteristics in terms of their social and class background, in terms of the course of their growth and development, and in terms of the course of their struggle. Our intellectuals were, by nature, intellectuals of a colonial and semi-feudal society and, therefore, had anti-imperialist and democratic revolution-mindedness. They have also faithfully struggled, firmly rallying around their leader, since the era of pioneering the revolutionary cause. So many intellectuals have grown up to become indomitable revolutionary fighters and enthusiastic communist revolutionaries who serve the party, the people, and the working class in the course in which, firmly trusting the party and the leader, they have vigorously traversed the road of loyalty up to now, ever since the dawn of the Korean revolution, the period of the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the period of construction of a new society, the period of the arduous war, and the period of the postwar rehabilitation and construction.

History has never witnessed such intellectuals who, like our intellectuals, upholding the leader of their revolution as the great teacher and the benefactor of their lives, have created the brilliant model of loyalty and have added luster to the tradition of the model for long since the first period when the origin of their revolution started. Our intellectuals are the revolutionary ones who constantly cultivated their revolutionary minds along the teaching of the great party's leadership, even in the period when socialist construction was deepened and developed.

The noble features of our intellectuals who have been infinitely loyal to the party and the leader have entered a higher plane amid the historic struggle of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea. Because of the existence of the party's great dignity and its correct policy of making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them in the working class, the intellectual problem in our country has been brilliantly solved today, and, accordingly, all intellectuals, regardless of whether they are old intellectuals or newly growing intellectuals, are infinitely adding luster to their noble political lives. The lofty and noble ideological and mental features of our intellectuals who have firm position and viewpoint toward the leader of the revolution has extensively found expression in living and struggling as the eternal companions of the party.

In his reply letter to members of the Korean Literature Production the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il indicated: I want you to become eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors in the construction of our party and its activity.

Eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors of the party! This is the highest honor that our intellectuals can enjoy. The eternal companions of the party means precisely the genuine revolutionaries who invariably struggle for the party to the end, under all circumstances, reconciling the party's destiny with their own destinies. Becoming the faithful supporters and outstanding counselors of the party means to become not only the active supporters who absolutely support and defend all works that the party plans and maps out and who uphold the party's cause with practical success, but also the mainstay on which the party can rely.

This lofty title bestowed by our party reflects its great confidence of putting at the forefront and recognizing our intellectuals as the precious persons—whom we cannot exchange with anything else—and giving infinite love and consideration to them. The fact that our intellectuals live under the superior chuche-oriented socialist system, being called the eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors of the party, is precisely the greatest glory and pride of our intellectuals. Today our intellectuals are staunchly advancing to attain the revolutionary cause of chuche, cherishing deep in their hearts this great happiness that none of other intellectuals in the world have yet enjoyed.

The noble features of our intellectuals who have become the eternal companions of the party lie precisely in their sharing their will and destiny with the party wherever and whenever. There is no more important thing than to have comradely relationship with those who have the same mind and will in the course of carrying out the revolution. When people have the same mind and will they come to trust each other. Likewise, when people trust each other, they can surmount any difficulties. When such revolutionary relationship is realized between leader and fighters, the revolutionary ranks become invincible.

Because they are firmly united with their leader precisely with a relationship of ideological will, morality, and ethics, our intellectuals have enjoyed the noble title called the eternal companions of the revolution. The determination of our intellectuals to advance forever along the leadership of the party today, taking the party's ideological will as their firm faith, is very firm and invariable. The firm and invariable belief that the glorious day of our revolution, as well as its hopeful and promising future, is firmly guaranteed by the greatness of our party; the firm standpoint of linking one's destiny only to the party's leadership; and the revolutionary determination to become a firm fortress and shield and, thus, to resolutely safeguard and defend the party and the leader—these are precisely the noble ideological feelings overflowing in the hearts of all of our intellectuals today.

This is why our intellectuals praise, with dignity, the greatness of the party and the leader even when they create a song or a poem. This is also why, even when they map out a design or make a scientific and technological invention, they exert all possible efforts so that the party's intent can be embodied in it.

Recently, members of the second party cell of the fifth bureau of the Korean Central News Agency and poets of the Korean Literature Production, presented a letter which was filled with endless trust toward the leader of the revolution and wholly displayed the might of the single unified intent of our revolutionary ranks. This is a lofty trait which can be found only in our intellectuals who live by entrusting all of their fate to the party.

Currently, as the young Communists and the anti-Japanese guerrillas of the past boldly fought their way through the mountains and swamps with the general by firmly having faith in the great general alone, even under the worst adversity which judges life or death, all of our intellectuals must have faith in our party's Central Committee in whatever difficulties in the future and they are blazing with the enthusiasm of fighting to the end along with the party.

The song, "Ten Million Ri Following Our Leader, Ten Million Ri Following the Party, We Will Walk Only One Road Eternally," which is widely sung by our people today, is a song reflecting the unchanging attitude and position of our people and intellectuals, which is to uphold the leader of the revolution to the end.

Our intellectuals are loudly singing this song of faith and loyalty and will continue to move forward vigorously. Also they will brighten the tradition of loyalty toward our revolutionary ranks and the tradition of the single intent unity, generation after generation.

What is also important in the trait of our intellectuals who are being an eternal partner of the party, is that infinite devotion is being displayed in the practical struggle of resolutely advocating the party line and policy and in thoroughly fulfilling it.

The party's eternal partner is a fervent supporter, resolute advocator, and thorough implementer of the party policy who absolutely espouses their party's ideology and line and who fulfills the ideology and line with an unchanging attitude.

Only a person who accepts the party's line and policy as a life-and-death demand and displaying an indomitable devotion spirit in adhering to and embodying this, can share the fate with the party to the end.

Historically, our intellectuals were thorough in the position and viewpoint in the line and policy that were put forth by their party and went through fire and water to achieve the party's plan.

Whenever our party put forth a new line and policy such as the basic line in the socialist economic construction; the chucheization, modernization, and scientific line of the people's economy; the socialist agricultural thesis; and education thesis, our intellectuals devoted all their wisdom and energy to change this into a great reality and reliably ensured the fulfillment of the party policy into science and technology.

The title of our intellectuals as the party's eternal partner, loyal supporter, and great adviser, is an endlessly lofty and proud title because this was maintained amidst the long historic struggle of resolutely advocating and thoroughly fulfilling our party's policy. Therefore, this is an endlessly lofty and proud title.

In every post of the socialist construction, there are numerous intellectuals who are devoting all their strength and talent to achieve the party's line and policy and the plan of the party and the leader.

A large number of unheralded heroes and unheralded persons of merit who brilliantly implemented the party's plans by making strenuous efforts for scores of years, whether someone watched them or not, appeared in succession among our intellectuals. This clearly shows the noble traits of our intellectuals.

Without the devoted struggle of our intellectuals who are implementing the party's plans by going through fire and water, one cannot think of such great numerous monumental creations as the Sohae Lockgate and Sunchon Vinalon Complex which were built in many places and are demonstrating the might of our country's self-reliant economy, and of the present golden age of chuche-oriented literature and art.

We take great pride in having a great unit of excellent intellectuals who are tenaciously advancing forward by courageously crossing mountains and rivers to meet the party's call.

The noble traits of our intellectuals who have become permanent companions [tonghaengja] of the party lie in that they live and struggle in a revolutionary manner with thorough faith in the chuche socialist cause—our party's cause—and with firm working-class position.

Today the imperialists' maneuvers to eradicate the socialist cause have been unprecedentedly strengthened. The imperialists are resorting to all sorts of means and methods in an attempt to drag the intellectuals, who still have a great deal of remnants of outdated ideas and are apt to be imbued with bourgeois ideas, into their antisocialist maneuvers. The imperialists are attempting to make these intellectuals their guide by changing their ideology in quality.

Therefore, maintaining a firm working-class position by the intellectuals has become not only the issue concerning their own destiny but also the principled issue related to the future of overall socialist cause.

The intellectuals who have been fostered in our party's bosom are the revolutionary intellectuals with strong class consciousness and lofty revolutionary spirit. Our intellectuals have become glorious members of the party and the revolutionary ranks with firm determination to dedicate their whole lives to the working class and its cause. They are constantly training themselves to become revolutionized and classified. Therefore, it is beyond imagination that they would secede from the class position and class principle.

Our intellectuals firmly armed themselves with an outlook on the collectivist life—the outlook on life of the working class—and are devotedly struggling for the party, the revolution, the fatherland and the people. They are excellently leading the organizational and ideological life by following and learning from an unique organizational spirit and discipline of the working class. This is the very outlook cherished by our intellectuals.

For such revolutionary intellectuals with thoroughgoing working class positions, no unsound ideological and cultural tendency can be infiltrated into them.

Resolutely rejecting the trend of dragging various capitalist factors into economic and cultural construction and corrupt bourgeois way of life, our intellectuals are heroically living and struggling according to the party's slogan. This clearly proves their lofty revolutionary spirit and working class spirit.

The more the imperialists' anti-revolutionary offensive is strengthened, the louder voice of faith, "you, coward, may go but we will firmly safeguard the banner of socialism—the revolutionary banner—" resound among our intellectuals. Indeed, this is the voice of faith of permanent companions and genuine revolutionaries who tenaciously defend and protect the party's cause.

The noble trait of the intellectuals who today became the permanent companions of the party is endlessly beautiful. Such a noble trait cannot be seen from the intellectuals of any other time. It is the very intellectuals of Korea today who, assuming our party's ideas and faith as their own outlook on the world, take lofty creativeness, courage, and spirit of ever-victorious indomitable struggle, which were fostered by our party, as their own Constitution.

2. That All Intellectuals of Our Country Have Been Fostered to be Genuine Chuche-oriented Intellectuals With Lofty Ideological and Mental Traits Is the Brilliant Fruition of the Wise Leadership of the Party and the Leader

Intellectuals play an important role in the revolution and construction. However, this does not mean that they can do so automatically. In other words, intellectuals, as well as workers and peasants, can become members of the social and political organism and greatly contribute to developing society only under the leadership of the party and the leader. The party and the leader of the working class are the guides who implant the revolutionary ideology and faith of the working class in all intellectuals, who bestow a rewarding life upon them, and who lead their abilities and wisdom to be fully displayed. Without the party's guidance, intellectuals cannot pioneer their destinies at all nor can they perform the mission that they have been assigned by history and the times.

Our party is the great party which has brilliantly created a model for solving the intellectual problem. Since the first day of its founding our party has set forth a unique intellectual policy based on the chuche idea and has consistently implemented it. In this course old intellectuals have been indoctrinated and reformed, a large army of intellectuals of the new generation has been fostered, and basic changes have been effected in the ideological viewpoints, way of thinking, and work style of all intellectuals. Our party bestows, first of all, great confidence upon intellectuals and leads their political lives in a responsible manner.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: Our party has led intellectuals, assuming their destinies, while regarding them as eternal companions of the revolution.

Of our intellectuals, there are those from the old bourgeois class who served in the exploiting society in the past and those new intellectuals from the working people who have been fostered amid the bosom of the party. All of our intellectuals, regardless of their origin and personal background, are dedicating themselves to the implementation of the party's cause, firmly trusting and following only the party and the leader. This is because of the great political confidence of our party which has led our intellectuals, assuming responsibility for their destinies.

The great leader's trust is the basic source which makes it possible for all of our intellectuals to share their destinies with the party to the end under any circumstances. How great the trust of the party and the leader toward intellectuals is can be easily proven by our party's mark itself. Our party, a chuche type party, is the only party in the world, its insignia being a pen engraved along with a hammer and a sickle, which regards intellectuals as one of the basic revolutionary forces. Reflected in this is precisely the lofty will of the party and the leader to carry out the revolution together with intellectuals, firmly believing them to be eternal companions, not as temporary companions.

Today our party has bestowed great love and thoughtful consideration upon intellectuals so that they can have the noblest political life and add luster to it. Making efforts to consummate our revolutionary cause to the end, while firmly believing our intellectuals to be the eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors of the party, is precisely the firm position of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. It is precisely our party which puts numerous intellectuals at the forefront to work at important positions in the party and the state as commanding members of the revolution. It is also precisely our party which boldly assigns heavy and responsible tasks to intellectuals and bestows strength, courage, and faith upon them.

As a result, scientists and technicians who have contributed to the technological revolution enjoy the love and respect of the people as the precious treasures of the party; teachers enjoy love and respect from the people as the professional revolutionaries who foster the communist revolutionaries of the future; medical doctors enjoy love and respect from the people as the engineers who are responsible for human life; writers and artists are called not only reliable supporters who are carrying out the revolution together with the party, but also reliable revolutionary artists of the party; and reporters and members of the editorial staff have become outpost sentinels of the party's ideological front.

Absolute trust from the party and the leader fosters loyalty. The basic foundation of the infinite loyalty of our intellectuals who have devoted their all wisdom and abilities to the party's cause, entrusting their destinies to the party, involves the great trust and love bestowed by the party and the leader. If our party had simply sought to utilize the knowledge and technology of intellectuals, our intellectuals would not have devoted themselves to the party's cause nor would they have invariably and faithfully struggled following the party.

The uniqueness and greatness of our party's intellectual policy lies precisely in assuming responsibility for the intellectuals' destiny to the end, regarding them not as the means of the revolution but as a unit in the main force of the revolution and not as the momentary companions of the revolution but as the eternal companions who should join the communist society. And because of the existence of that love and trust the large army of intellectuals who adopt loyalty to the party and the leader as their first life has appeared.

Our party has also constantly strengthened the work of making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class in conformity with the demands of the developing revolution. By nature, intellectuals tend to be influenced by old ideologies more than anyone else because of their professional characteristics. Only when the work of implanting revolutionary world view of the working class among intellectuals is vigorously carried out can they faithfully live and struggle for the party and the revolution.

Our party's policy of making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class is a most revolutionary and unique policy which makes it possible for our intellectuals to perform the mission and role as the intellectuals of the working class. This policy elucidates all theoretical and practical problems which arise in fostering our intellectuals into revolutionaries, who are infinitely loyal to the party and the revolution and into eternal companions of the party. In an effort to make our intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class our party has not only vigorously launched the ideological indoctrination work of firmly arming them with the chuche idea, but has also seen to it that they strengthen their revolutionary organizational life and cultivate their strong revolutionary will through revolutionary practice.

Today, as members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade and the 15 April technological innovation shock brigade, a large number of our scientists and technicians are devising valuable scientific and technological inventions in all sectors of the national economy, and new young intellectuals who have just graduated from universities are taking the initiative in carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—as Three Revolutions Team members. This vividly shows the vitality of our party's policy on fostering intellectuals into enthusiastic revolutionaries of chuche type.

With the implementation of our party's policy on making the course of carrying out the revolutionary task precisely a course of revolutionization, our intellectuals' organizational spirit, disciplinary character, and revolutionary spirit have been enhanced, and all of our intellectuals have grown up to become communist revolutionaries of the chuche type and intellectuals of the working class who thoroughly liquidate the vestiges of old ideologies and who struggle, devoting their all, for the interests of the party and the revolution. Our experience has shown that in order for intellectuals to invariably and steadily traverse the single road of the revolution, it is imperative for the party to constantly indoctrinate and correctly lead them.

The policy on making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class that our party has consistently adhered to has opened the wide road which makes it possible to responsibly lead intellectuals' destinies to the end and which makes it possible for them to live and struggle as intellectuals of the working class. Because of this, the policy has become a great banner in solving the intellectual problem in our times. When we actively push ahead with the work of making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class under the party's leadership we can properly carry out the ideological reform work for intellectuals, as well as the work of increasing the advancing speed of the revolution and construction.

Our party has also given great considerations to intellectuals so that they can fully display their ability and wisdom in socialist construction. The party's bosom is the benevolent bosom in which our intellectuals can fully flower their ideals, aspirations, wisdom and abilities. No matter what outstanding ability and extraordinary disposition intellectuals may have, this ability and disposition cannot bear fruit if there is no bosom of the leader who cultivates and leads them. Treasuring intellectuals' wisdom and ability and sparing no efforts to add luster to them—this is precisely the invariable stand of our party. Proceeding from this stand, our party not only guaranteed all possible conditions for scientists' research activity even in the period of the arduous days of the Korean war which determined the nation's destiny, but also saw to it that the state built outstanding scientific research bases and literature and art palaces for intellectuals even in the financially difficult postwar period. When our party provides science research facilities for intellectuals it provides the most up-to-date ones for them, and when it supplies musical instruments and teaching aids to them it supplies the best quality of musical instruments and teaching aids. Such devoted care by our party is indeed warmhearted. Because of the great love and care of the dear comrade Kim Chong-il, numerous scientists, talented persons, and artists have appeared one after another in our country in recent times.

It is by no means easy for our party to guarantee the best working and living conditions for intellectuals. We are building socialism under the difficult circumstances in which the country is divided and in which we are struggling in direct opposition to the U.S. imperialists. Our party's love and care of intellectuals are indeed most valuable and precious because they are constantly provided for under today's circumstances in which we have to reliably defend the socialist fatherland while carrying out vast economic construction tasks. Because they deeply understand this through the experience of their practical lives, our intellectuals live and struggle today, calling the bosom of the party a motherly bosom.

Reality clearly proves that only when a most correct intellectual policy and the leadership of the great party which consistently implement this policy exist the intellectual problem can be brilliantly solved and new changes can be effected in their destinies.

3. Because of the existence of the ranks of revolutionary intellectuals fostered by our party, infinitely promising and immense prospects are being unfolded on the future of the party, the revolution, the fatherland, and the nation.

Today our revolution is vigorously accelerating the historic march of the nineties. Amid this rewarding struggle the main force of our revolution has been further strengthened, the superiority of socialism of our style has been continuously enhanced, and, thus, the golden age of the era of the workers' party is constantly blooming. The fact that the revolution and construction in our country today are victoriously advancing with boundless vitality and potential cannot be contemplated apart from the struggle of our intellectuals who have devotedly upheld the party's cause. In our country today there are 1.5 million intellectuals of the chuche type, revolutionary intellectuals, who have been fostered amid the party's bosom. They are indeed precious assets in opening a bright future of our fatherland, our nation, and our revolution.

With the existence of a large army of outstanding intellectuals, the eternal companions, who share their destinies with the party, our party has been strengthened and developed into a mighty party which has taken roots deep in the broad segments of the masses.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: Our party is a mass-oriented political party with the vanguard fighters of the working class as its core elements. Our party is also a mass-oriented political party firmly marshaled by outstanding advanced elements of peasants and workers, as well as the working class.

The future of the revolution and the destiny of the nation rest entirely with the party's might, and the party's might is emphatically guaranteed by the solidness of its foundation among the masses. Only such a party which has firmly rallied a large number of intellectuals, who are infinitely loyal to the fatherland and the revolution, as well as the working class and peasants, around its ranks can not only invariably maintain its working class character, but also consummate the socialist cause to the end.

Such a party which fails to receive absolute support from all members of the society, including intellectuals, and which fails to take roots deep among them is like a house of cards and, therefore, cannot perform its mission and role as the vanguard of the revolution. Today, our party is demonstrating its might as the great party which has registered the immortal achievements for the times, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people and as the invincible party which is leading the socialist cause to the single road of victory while surmounting all sorts of difficulties and trials. That our party is enjoying lofty honor and dignity and invincible power today is thanks to the fact that numerous faithful companions and supporters who are never shaken under any circumstances have firmly rallied around it.

Our party, which has firmly united with the broad segments of the popular masses as one united body in terms of destiny, is precisely the destiny of the working class, peasants, and working intellectuals. Today, our intellectuals have become dignified members of the powerful main force of our revolution and are reliably defending the revolutionary outposts assigned by the party, cherishing in their hearts great honor and pride as the eternal companions who share their destinies with the leader to the end.

Today, numerous intellectuals who are infinitely loyal to the party and who have been firmly prepared politically and ideologically are outstandingly performing their duties in party and state organs and on all fronts of socialist economic construction. Because of this, our party has become very strong, and all lines and policies set forth by our party have been successfully implemented.

As long as a large army of revolutionary intellectuals, together with the heroic working class and cooperative peasants, exist, our party will be constantly strengthened and developed while its invincibility is being demonstrated. With the existence of a large army of outstanding intellectuals who have devotedly upheld the party's cause, a golden age of great national prosperity and grandeur has been unfolded in this land. Intellectuals are outstanding and valuable assets of the country and the nation. As far as outstanding persons, talented intellectuals exist, nothing can be impossible. History has shown that a nation which contributed to developing the culture of mankind and demonstrated its dignity and honor had, without fail, numerous able intellectuals who registered great achievements for its prosperity.

In the past, in our country there were no correct guideline and leadership to make it possible to achieve national prosperity and grandeur nor were there outstanding intellectuals, outstanding national cadres who could embody the guideline and leadership. However, today our country has a powerful large army of intellectuals who can demonstrate national wisdom and dignity to the world. Their loyalty to the party, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people is thorough and firm. They are able and talented persons who have high technological and creative powers.

Today, under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural, our intellectuals are not only strengthening socialist construction into a new higher stage, but are also staunchly struggling to vigorously demonstrate national dignity in all sectors. Thanks to the active struggle of our intellectuals, in our country, the work of assimilating the whole society into the intelligentsia has been vigorously pushed ahead, the overall level of knowledge in the society has been constantly enhanced, and a modern socialist cultural life is flowering extensively. Along with this, the work of enhancing the scientific and technological level of the country and the work of making the national economy chuche-oriented, modernized, and scientific are being vigorously carried out on a large scale; and new inventions and successes in production, which amaze the people of the world, are being achieved everyday.

Because of the existence of the ranks of outstanding intellectuals who are infinitely loyal to the party and the revolution, we can brilliantly embody our party's firm determination and will to elevate all sectors, including the scientific, technological, economic, and cultural sectors, to a world level in the nineties and, thus, to demonstrate the nation-first ideology. That our intellectuals are staunchly struggling as the eternal companions of the party is of great significance in resolutely safeguarding the most superior socialism of our style and in adding luster to it generation after generation.

The socialism of our style is socialism which has established chuche and socialism which is constantly developing on the firm foundation of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense. In the future, too, our socialism will be built, strengthened, and developed on the basis of the large steadfast army of national cadres.

Only when we have a large army of intellectuals, national cadres, who have been fostered by the party and armed with the chuche idea and who serve the revolution and the people can socialism advance victoriously without faltering under any circumstances. This is the noble truth which has been proven in the course of building socialism of our style. Today, under the banner of the chuche idea our party and people are accelerating, with certainty, socialist construction as dictated by their faith and determination and with their own strength. That we have been able to continuously establish chuche thus far in defiance of the maelstrom of history is because we have a large and strong army of intellectuals.

In fact, now that we have a large army of one million and hundreds of thousands of intellectuals today, our people have come to be no longer envious of others as far as the intellectual problem is concerned. In accelerating economic construction, developing national culture, and promoting the overall cultural and technological level of the society we do not need to look on others with envy or to rely on them. Now that we have the ranks of powerful national cadres we can easily solve any difficult and vast tasks in socialist construction with our own strength and under the principle of self-reliance. With such firm faith our party and people will, in the future, too, sternly smash the imperialists' maneuvers to suffocate socialist countries economically, culturally, scientifically, and technologically. Thus, our party and people will see to it that the hurrah of victory resounds on a continuous basis in socialist construction.

The revolution is to constantly advance, and the struggle to accomplish the socialist cause continues generation after generation. Outstanding intellectuals of new generations, who will shoulder the future of the socialist cause of chuche, are being fostered in our country today. The state of preparedness of our new generation of young intellectuals is very good. So far as our new generation of young intellectuals—who have established a firm revolutionary world view and who have the knowledge of modern science, technology, and culture—resolutely struggle, deeply realizing the mission that they have been assigned by the times, the achievements that our party and people have registered in their struggle for the socialist cause of chuche will be defended generation after generation. In this course our socialism will shine eternally as the socialism of chuche which does not know of flunkeyism and dogmatism but of only independence and creation and as the most revolutionary and people-oriented socialism which serves the people.

Today our intellectuals are faced with the honorable task of vigorously accelerating the cause of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea under the leadership of the party. Today when socialist construction is being constantly deepened and developed into a high stage and the heavy revolutionary task has arisen our party firmly trusts our intellectuals and expects them to play greater roles.

Our intellectuals should not forget their mission, should uphold the party's cause with knowledge and technology, and should, thus, resolutely safeguard and defend our superior socialist system. For our intellectuals to become eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors of the party, they should vigorously live and struggle, cherishing in their hearts firm a faith and sense of duty toward their leader. The outstanding intellectuals of the past who greatly contributed to the party and the revolution and who still remain in our memory were, without exception, genuine loyalists and filial sons, whose faith in the party and the leader were thorough and whose sense of duty was strong. They devotedly upheld the party's cause with the single-hearted loyalty of trying to repay the benevolent solicitude of the leader even to the slightest degree. Our practical life shows that only such intellectuals can add luster to their political lives without being shaken in their faith of upholding the leader.

The words, "Let us not forget the oath that we vowed to the revolution. You are Kim Hyok and I am Song-chu," which were written in the hearts of our revolutionaries at the dawn of our revolution as an epic of great belief and comradely love, are the banner of the revolution that our intellectuals should keep in their minds today, tomorrow, and eternally. Our intellectuals who have firmly vowed before the leader to become eternal companions, faithful supporters, and outstanding counselors will firmly and steadily traverse the single road of loyalty without faltering under any circumstances.

Defending the sacred Red Flag eternally although time passes and generations change amid struggle is precisely the steadfast and invariable faith and will of our intellectuals. Our intellectuals will vigorously advance forward, holding aloft the flag of our glorious party on which a pen is engraved, together with a hammer and a sickle, and will live and struggle as the eternal companions of the party.

Prospecting Corps Find Metal Ore Deposits

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1501 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA)—Nonferrous metal ore bodies, alunite bodies and a mammoth coal deposit have been discovered in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

These ore bodies which were recently found by the members of geological prospecting corps under the Nyanggang Provincial Prospecting Administration are deposited in Kapsan, Unhung, Pochon and Paekam Counties of Nyanggang Province, the northern region of Korea.

The Nyongam Geological Prospecting Corps has struck high-grade nonferrous metal ore bodies and promising alunite bodies by invigorating new test drilling methods suited to the winter conditions.

The Paekam Geological Prospecting Corps has spotted a coal deposit and is making preparations to develop it.

Other geological prospecting corps under the provincial administration are also discovering bountiful underground resources.

CPC Decree Awards Order of Labor to Teachers

SK2501113991 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] A decree was issued by the DPRK Central People's Committee awarding the title of meritorious teacher to comrades Kim Hwa-sun and Chi Pyong-son.

In the decree comrades Kim Hwa-sun, head of the Pyongyang Namsim first kindergarten, and Chi Pyong-son, head of the Pyongyang Kyongsang kindergarten, were awarded the DPRK meritorious teacher title and the Order of Labor. It stated that they highly upheld the party's leadership; vigorously struggled to examine works on socialist education while serving in the education sector for a long time; laid strong foundations for kindergarten; constantly improved the content and method of education; contributed to enhancing the children's educational indoctrination.

* Improvement in Fiscal Management Urged

912C0048 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 2 Nov 90 p 3

[Article by Han In-ho: "To Improve and Strengthen Financial Work Is an Important Guarantee for an Accelerated Socialist Construction"]

[Text] Today, as socialist construction progresses vigorously at high new levels amid the general march of the 1990's, it is one of the important tasks in further accelerating socialist construction to further improve and strengthen financial work.

The historic paper "On Improving and Strengthening Financial and Banking Work" by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il represents an immortal library of chuche-based fiscal theories put together and systematized. It serves as a programmatic guideline which we should rely on steadfastly in improving and strengthening financial and banking work.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, points out:

"Confronting the financial and banking sectors today are the heavy tasks to further improve and strengthen financial and banking work in accordance with the realistic demands of socialist construction."|

It provides an important guarantee for a vigorous acceleration in socialist construction that we follow the profound, chuche-based fiscal theories and guidelines enunciated by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to improve and strengthen financial work in accordance with the demands of the developing realities.

That improving and strengthening financial work is an important guarantee for a vigorously accelerated socialist construction has something to do, first of all, with the superiority of the socialist finances in our country that stand for the interests of the working masses.

The positive role of finances in accelerating socialist construction is determined by their intrinsic superiority and strength. When the socialist finances, as the finances for the working masses, thoroughly serve the cause of accelerating production and construction in accordance with the demands and interests of the working masses, and when they perform on a firm, self-dependent basis, they will positively contribute to further strengthening the material and technical foundations of socialism and to further consolidating and developing the socialist system.

The socialist finances of our country are the most superior and mightiest finances. It is because they are the kind of finances embodying the chuche ideology. Our socialism embodying the chuche ideology represents the most superior and truly popular society in which the working masses are the master of everything and everything serves the working masses. If socialist finances are to display their superiority and mightiness, they must become the finances of the people. Finances in our country are the genuinely popular finances that are out and out dedicated to financially ensuring a self-dependent and creative life for the masses of people. The intrinsic characteristics of the socialist finances as the truly popular finances lie, precisely, in the fact that the finances serve the working masses and that the working masses are the master of the finances. This makes the socialist finances the most superior finances and the finances of greatest vitality.

The socialist finances, serving the working masses, are the finances for developing social production at an uninterrupted high rate of speed. Capitalist finances are based on the exploitation and plundering of the working masses. Consequently, they are unstable. On the other hand, the socialist finances are based on the working masses' self-dependent and creative labor and therefore are most solid. In the socialist finances, financial resources are ceaselessly created and utilized on the basis of the working masses' voluntary enthusiasm and creative positiveness and, through this process, social production develops with a high rate of speed.

Only when the socialist finances come to fully display their superiority and mightiness can we successfully resolve all the financial tasks confronting the revolution and construction, and vigorously accelerate socialist construction. Therefore, financial work must be improved and strengthened by giving top priority to the demands and interests of the working masses and bringing their voluntary enthusiasm and creativity into full play in accordance with the intrinsic characteristics of the socialist finances. Only by doing so can we resolve all the financial tasks satisfactorily on our own and accelerate our socialist construction more vigorously.

That improving and strengthening financial work is an important guarantee for accelerating socialist construction is also related to the fact that financially it enables us to satisfactorily ensure the balance and the high speed of expansive reproduction.

The important responsibility of the socialist finances as the finances for the working masses is to ensure the correct balance of accumulation and consumption in the distribution of the national income, guarantee a high rate of speed for the socialist economic development, and to correctly carry out the distribution for labor. When fiscal management is conducted commendably, and when the law of balance between accumulation and consumption, the law of uninterrupted high rate of speed in the socialist economic development, and the law of distribution for labor are thus observed correctly, the question of ensuring financially the balance and the high speed of expansive reproduction can be resolved satisfactorily. Meanwhile, the responsibility of socialist finances for ensuring satisfactorily the balance of expansive reproduction and its speed is carried out mainly through the work of setting up correctly, and implementing thoroughly, the national budget and other fiscal plans.

National budgets, fiscal plans for the people's economic branches and for enterprises play an important role in ensuring the balance of accumulation and consumption and a high rate of speed for economic developments. The national budget is the basic fiscal plan of the country defining the nation's overall economy, while the fiscal plans for the people's economic branches and those for enterprises reflect the state of housekeeping in the respective branches and enterprises in a comprehensive manner. By the national budget and other fiscal plans, the gross social product and the national income are correctly distributed and redistributed in terms of currency value into the accumulation and consumption portions, which are then used on a planned basis for the nation's economic developments, improvements in the people's living standards and other general state housekeeping details, as well as for management activities of organizations and enterprises. Therefore, how the national budget is compiled and executed affects the nation's overall economy. It also affects results of the task of ensuring the balance of accumulation and consumption correctly and a high rate of speed for economic developments. Herein lies the reason why the work of compiling correctly and executing thoroughly the national budget and other fiscal plans is emphasized as the task of highest priority and greatest importance in financial work.

The work of compiling and executing the national budget and other fiscal plans—when viewed from the standpoint of ensuring satisfactorily the financial balance and speed of expansive reproduction—after all boils down to increasing ceaselessly the national revenue sources based on inner accumulations from stepped-up struggles for increased production and conservation, and to economizing and outlaying national budget funds effectively.

As was stressed at the 17th Plenum of the party Sixth Central Committee meeting, a high rate of speed can be ensured for the socialist economic construction only through maximum degrees of increased production and conservation. We must grasp firmly such tasks as to effectively outlay funds and be frugal with them in the compiling and executing of the national budget and other fiscal plans and, on that basis, to wage struggles for increased production and conservation; only by doing so can we conduct financial work creditably in accordance with the demands and interests of the working masses as well as with the demands of the law of the socialist economy and accelerate socialist construction even more vigorously.

It is important in ensuring the balance and speed of expansive reproduction satisfactorily to increase budgetary revenues, to distribute them correctly, and to outlay them fairly for the basic purpose of improving the people's living conditions.

Holding aloft the decision of the 17th Plenum of the party Sixth Central Committee meeting, we must step up our struggles for increased production and conservation, and regularize production at high levels. And we must increase revenue sources with no letup with the people's interests as top priority, expanding consumption ceaselessly while ensuring precedence and priority for accumulation in keeping with the consistent guidelines of our party; under this principle, we will correctly distribute and use national budgetary funds and carry on the expansive reproduction ever more effectively, thereby increasing the national income systematically and improving the people's livelihood.

The fact that improving and strengthening financial work is an important guarantee for accelerating socialist construction is also connected with the task of rationalizing economic management and steering the nation's economy meticulously.

The more rationally the economy is managed and the more assiduously and meticulously the nation's housekeeping is done, the more effectively can all our management activities be carried out on the basis of strictly scientific calculations. This way, we can closely plan and coordinate the work of creating, distributing, and using material wealth in a creditable manner in all sectors and units. This is an important method not only to produce and build more with the same capital in accordance with the party's demand for maximum production and conservation but also to ensure that everything that has been produced is put to consumption solidly and that all the tasks of improving the people's living standards and accelerating the economic construction are thereby resolved simultaneously and effectively.

It is the essential characteristics of the socialist finances that they serve positively to help rationalize economic management and ensure that all the housekeeping processes are conducted assiduously and meticulously. It has connections with the fact that in socialist society, finances reflect comprehensively movements of monetary funds and, through them, the state of housekeeping of the respective units.

Especially, finances of factories and enterprises reflect comprehensively the outlays for production and their results, showing the economic effect of production and management activities. This means that finances serve as an important means to improve economic management and manage the nation's economic life assiduously and meticulously, thereby accelerating socialist construction.

The socialist finances serve to improve economic management and manage the nation's economic life in an assiduous manner. We see it in the fact that the socialist finances ensure that the independent economic accounting system [IEAS] is operated correctly.

The IEAS is a rational management method for socialist state-run enterprises by which factories and enterprises—while engaging in economic activities under the central leadership but with relative independence managerially—make both ends meet and bring profits to the state. The IEAS and fiscal management are closely related to each other. It is because in socialist society, finances are an economic lever utilizing the form of money while the IEAS—which is premised on utilization of the form of material incentive and the law of value, can also be implemented smoothly only through the utilization of the form of money. Therefore, to do fiscal management creditably is to implement the IEAS correctly.

In order to implement the IEAS correctly, economic levers such as cost, price, and profitability must be utilized correctly. If such economic levers are effectively utilized as a means of computation, control, and a material incentive in accordance with the socialist economic law and the principles of management and control based on planning, we can eliminate wastes and strengthen economization systems. Only by doing so can we meet more satisfactorily the demands of the party that we increase profits by systematically reducing the costs while increasing production through a better planned and more effective use of raw materials as well as other materials and labor. This, after all, means that improvement in financial work leads to rationalization in economic management and further to an acceleration of socialist construction.

By correctly implementing the IEAS, we will bring the revolutionary enthusiasm of the producer masses into positive play, conduct enterprise management in a more scientific, rational manner, and step up the struggle for increased production and conservation more vigorously.

All the functionaries, party members, and working people will study in depth the chuche-based theories and guidelines of fiscal management enunciated by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in his historic work "On Improving and Strengthening Financial and Banking Work," making them part of themselves and embodying them thoroughly in the practice of fiscal management. By doing so, they will ensure that the superiority and vitality of our socialist finances is brought into fuller play and that socialist construction is accelerated even more vigorously.

Footnotes

1. "On Improving and Strengthening Financial and Banking Work," monograph, p. 3.

South Korea

Soviet Envoy Calls North's UN Plan Unrealistic

SK2601095891 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 26 Jan 91 p 2

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] On 25 January, Nokolay Solovyev, Soviet ambassador to China, stated that the Soviet Union, China, and the United States should consider how to cause North Korea to show a flexible attitude, because the counterproposal for "one seating with two representatives," which North Korea made in connection with the issue of the ROK's entry into the United Nations, is not realistic.

In an interview with Japan's KYODO News Agency in Beijing on the same day, Ambassador Solovyev said this in regard to the Korean peninsula issue. He added that "because the German method cannot be applicable to the reunification of the Korean peninsula, North-South dialogue should be maintained and expanded in a phased manner."

Noting that "North Korea should accept the international organization's inspection of its nuclear facilities," he said that "the Soviet Union supports the concept of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, including the ROK."

North Official Assures Participation in Talks

SK2401113191 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 24 Jan 91 p 5

[YONHAP report from Los Angeles]

[Text] On 22 January Kim Pyong-hong (55), vice director of the Institute for Disarmament and Peace, who is one of the high ranking persons in charge of North-South affairs in North Korea revealed: "Regardless of the Team Spirit exercise, North Korea will participate in the North-South premiers talks slated for February and will participate in the talks with a more flexible attitude to achieve reunification."

In an exclusive interview with YONHAP, Vice Director Kim said: "North and South Korea must decide on one reunification method this year and achieve reunification before the year 1995 so that division will not exceed 50 years." Vice Director Kim is in Los Angeles to participate in an academic seminar at the University of California at Los Angeles which is being hosted by the Asian Society.

He also said that in the fourth round of North-South premiers talks which will be held in Pyongyang in February, North Korea will show a flexible attitude, and added: "I anticipate that there will be good results in the upcoming talks."

1st Air Defense Exercise in Pyongyang in 10 Years

SK2801075191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 Jan 91 p 2

[YONHAP from Tokyo]

[Text] XINHUA has reported that an air defense exercise was conducted in Pyongyang on the morning of 27 January for the first time in 10 years.

XINHUA reported that when an air defense siren was heard at 1000, adult men with backpacks took shelter in subway underpasses and other underpasses, as did women who took along their children.

North Heavy Industries 'Plunged Into Stagnation'

SK2501020791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—A sharp drop in imports of crude oil from Iran since war erupted in the Persian Gulf seems to have plunged North Korea's metal and machinery industries into stagnation, the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK) reported Friday.

"The North Korean metal and machinery industries have slid into a deep slump because of sharp cuts in crude oil imports from Iran, which supplied 40 percent of North Korea's crude oil, and the Soviet Union, " said the report on the impact of the war on communist countries. Pyongyang, like Seoul, depends on imports for its entire oil supply.

IPECK, a research center attached to the Trade and Industry Ministry, said it expected North Korea's external economy to be severely hampered by foreign debt pressures following a rise in postwar international bank interest rates.

"Consequently, Pyongyang is likely to start or expand military sales to the Middle East and Africa in a bid to capitalize on a possible arms race in the turbulent region," the report said.

It speculated that Pyongyang may attempt to sell large amounts of weapons to countries in the Gulf if hostilities drag on or escalate. North Korea sold weapons to Iran during its eight-year war with iraq.

North Food Shortage Leads to 'Two Meals a Day'

SK2501014891 Seoul KOREA DAILY in English 25 Jan 91 p 4

[Text] The food situation in North Korea is so serious that they are now staging a "two-meals-a-day" campaign across the country, it was learned yesterday.

A senior government official said an overseas Korean resident who has recently been to North Korea told him he witnessed "Two Meals a Day" placards in public sites during his stay in the North. "We already knew the North is having serious food shortages. But, to stage a rice conservation drive under the catchword of 'two meals a day' suggests their food situation is far worse than we thought it would be," the official said.

He said the North's food crisis is bound to deteriorate because neither the Soviet Union or China is in a position to offer grains to the North. "The situation seems so perilous that there may occur mass starvation or a food riot in the North this spring," he said.

Due to poor harvests in successive years, North Korea would have to import more than 2 million tons of foods a year beginning this year, said another official, adding that in 1989 they imported 1 million tons of grain.

Seoul To Send Representatives to Pyongyang

SK2301073691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0654 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea may send as many as 30 representatives to the 85th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Pyongyang in April, National Assembly officials said Wednesday.

Reps. Na Ung-pae and So Sang-mok of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party and Rep. Yi Hae-chan of the Party for Peace and Democracy will attend the IPU-sponsored Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Chom Thien, Thailand, next week and will contact North Korean participants about the Pyongyang meeting, officials said.

Speaker Pak Chun-kyu sent a message to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly, on Jan. 16 to say he wanted to deliver a letter regarding the IPU General Assembly through the truce village of Panmunjom. Yang said he would notify Pak of a date on which the letter would be accepted.

Rep. Pak Chong-su, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, may also attend the Chom Thien meeting to meet with the North Korean delegates, the officials said. The parliamentarians will leave Saturday to attend the economic forum, which starts Monday. Pyongyang will host the IPU conference April 28 and Seoul plans to send a group of between 20 to 30 people, so the two sides will meet in Thailand to discuss Seoul's attendance, the officials said.

Pomminnyon Preparatory Committee Planned

SK1401131391 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 13 Jan 91 p 14

[Article by reporter Kim Yong-chol: "The Forming of South Korean Headquarters for Pan-national Union for National Reunification Is a Matter of Days"]

[Excerpts] With the move toward forming regional headquarters of the "Pan-national Union for National Reunification [Pomminnyon]" in the three regions of the South and the North and abroad approaching its final stage, set for the end of January, as agreed upon at the tripartite talks held last November in Berlin, attention is riveted on the activity of the civilian organization for reunification during 1991.

Following the formation of an overseas Pomminnyon headquarters in Berlin, Germany, last 16 December with Yun I-sang as its chairman, the South Korean headquarters is expected to be formally launched before the end of this month, according to those involved in the preparatory committee. They say that a preparatory committee will be formed on 23 January. North Korea is reported to have started, in effect, its activities in earnest after changing the name of the headquarters from the Promotion of the Pan-National Rally to the "Pomminnyon Headquarters of North Korea" last December.

The South side's headquarters for the promotion of the pan-national rally held a meeting of the organization's representatives on 9 January at Chon Chin-sang Education Hall in Myongdong, Seoul. The participants at the meeting agreed that they will have the South side's headquarters formed before the meeting of the leaders of the South and the North and abroad, scheduled for early February in Berlin, and mainly discussed the issue of forming the preparatory committee.

The participants in the meeting of the Pomminnyon representatives recommended Rev. Mun Ik-hwan as chairman of the preparatory committee to be formed on 23 January. They also decided to recommend about 300 people of all standings, including leaders of all the organizations formed for national and democratic causes, as members of the preparatory committee in order to fulfill Pomminnyon's spirit to have people from all walks of life ardently aspiring for reunification supporting it.

When the South side's Pomminnyon headquarters is inaugurated, it will be the largest civilian movement organization for reunification since national division. [passage omitted]

A member of the South side's Pomminnyon headquarters involved in the preparatory committee said: We do not rule out the possibility of putting political pressure on the South and the North during the South-North High-Level Talks scheduled for early February, in the name of the Korean people in the South and the North and abroad, to make the talks successful. Thus he indicated that Pomminnyon may emerge as the "eye of the typhoon," a force to be reckoned with when it comes to South-North relations and movement for reunification in 1991.

North Eases Into Textile Exports to Japan

SK1401092391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—North Korea is gnawing away at South Korea's share of the textile market in Japan with highly competitive exports, a Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra) official said Monday. North Korean textiles are highly competitive both in price and quality and Japan has bought substantial quantities since 1988, cutting into South Korean exports, said Yi Un-chik, chief of Kotra's Japan office.

South Korea was Japan's largest textile supplier up to the first half of 1989, but handed over first place to China in the second half. North Korea's textile exports to Japan started in 1988 and have taken off, reaching 200 million U.S. dollars last year or about 10 percent of South Korea's figure, Yi told a meeting of Kotra officials and representatives of trading companies. Yi said South Korean textile exports continue to falter and urged the companies to take all necessary steps to reverse the decline.

North Korea processes raw materials from Japan and sells the finished products to Japan. The quality is favorably comparable with South Korea and the price is highly competitive, he said. Yi advised South Korean companies to shift their production to high quality, high-priced textiles.

At the end of November, China had 30.2 percent of the Japanese textile market, followed by South Korea at 25.1 percent, Italy at 15.8 percent and Taiwan at 5.7 percent.

Yi Chun-sik, chief of Kotra's U.S. office, said trade friction between the two countries should be urgently settled on a governmental basis in order to make effective advances into the U.S. market. Song Chong-hyon, chief of Kotra's Soviet office, said export promotion in Eastern Europe should be "complementary."

Security Cooperation Agreement With U.S. Signed

SK2501071691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0641 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and U.S. Ambassador Donald Gregg signed an accord Friday that officially launched the Joint U.S. Military Affairs Group to Korea (JUSMAG-K), which is to promote security cooperation with emphasis on the research and development sector.

The new group replaces the U.S. Military advisory group to Korea, established under a 1950 agreement, and will comprise U.S. military and civilian personnel. The number has yet to be agreed upon by the two governments.

Article III of the agreement states that group members and their dependents "will enjoy the privileges and immunities accorded to personnel of comparable rank" of the U.S. Embassy. The Korean Government will provide the group with office and living quarters but will not pay for "new requirements" unless the Korean defense minister approved them in advance. Korea paid all the expenses of the old advisory group.

A foreign ministry official said the new agreement was an attempt to revise the role of the group in Korea to meet the changing security situation and will protect classified information exchanged by the two governments.

Yi and Gregg also signed the host nation support agreement, under which Korea will pay some of the wages of Korean employees of the U.S. Forces in Korea and share other expenditures for the next three years.

Korea earlier promised to pay 53 million dollars toward the wages of Korean employees this year and the two governments will set the size and method of further burden sharing through annual consultations. The 20,000 Koreans employed by the U.S. Forces in Korea cost around 400 million dollars a year.

There are 43,000 U.S. troops in Korea under a mutual defense treaty signed in 1953.

Developments Related to Gulf War Reported

Seoul Considers Further Deployment

SK2801063391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea is studying the possibility of sending additional military medical staff to the Persian Gulf to support the multinational forces, or perhaps dispatching aircraft mechanics, if asked for further aid by the United States, a well-placed government official said Monday.

It is also considering ways to speed up provision of 25 million U.S. dollars to the coalition forces, part of the 220 million dollars promised by Seoul, the official said. "There has been no official U.S. request for additional aid," the official said. "But it appears such a request, in whatever form, is inevitable if the Gulf war spreads to a ground battle.

"It is government principle that dispatch of combat troops is impossible, and therefore it is reviewing the feasibility of sending more medical staff or aircraft mechanics."

A working-level meeting is scheduled for Tuesday morning to discuss an overall plan in preparation for a prolonged war. The government is also moving toward early provision of 25 million dollars of the remaining 50 million dollars in support to minimize an expected request for further help, according to the official.

The Foreign Ministry will pursue active diplomacy with Egypt and Syria, which lack formal ties with Korea, and maintain its relations with Israel and the Palestinians after the war. Presidential envoys will be sent to the region, including Iraq, Yemen, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Algeria, and the government hopes to invite the Egyptian and Syrian presidents to South Korea, officials said.

Airport Put on Terrorist Alert

SK2801055491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea beefed up security in and around Kimpo International Airport Monday on a tip from British Airways that Arab terrorists are on the prowl in Asia.

The terrorists work in Pairs and all are Arab men in their 20s carrying brown briefcases containing two-kilogram bombs, according to what Kimpo was told by the airline. They are posing as businessmen and their aim is not only to blow up planes but also airports, a spokesman said.

In addition to normal security measures, all luggage and cargo on planes belonging to Arab airlines will be examined and all the passengers questioned closely. Security guards were given live ammunition for their pistols and machine guns, and a thorough search of airport facilities, including trash cans, was instituted.

KAL May Cancel Some Flights

SK2801100991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0923 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—Korean Air (KAL) will begin cancelling some flights to destinations in Southeast Asia if the Gulf war drags on, a company spokesman said Monday.

KAL will cut five flights on the Seoul-Saipan-Guam route, which now has four flights weekly, in February and seven in March. The Seoul-Tokyo route will have two less in January and three less in February while the Pusan-Nagasaki route one less in January, the spokesman said.

KAL is taking steps to move passengers reserved on the cancelled flights to nearby flights.

659 Evacuees Return From Gulf

SK2601055791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0504 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—Two planes carrying 659 South Korean evacuees touched down in Seoul Saturday after a flight from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The passengers included 31 diplomats and dependents, 220 residents in Saudi Arabia, 71 workers of Sinhwa engineering and construction, 51 employees of Hyundai Construction and Engineering co. and 15 employees of Samsung Construction Co. stranded in Riyadh, Dhahran and Jeddah since the Gulf war broke out.

Koreans still in Saudi Arabia are sheltering in safe regions such as Jeddah, they said on arrival.

Persian Gulf Situation Analyzed

SK2501144291 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 18 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by reporter O Tae-kyu]

[Text] War broke out in the Persian Gulf region at 0900 (Seoul time) on 17 January. People are quickening their pace and listening to street loudspeakers to learn about the war situation, and housewives are lining up to buy kerosene. This means that war is going on here, too.

Paradoxically speaking, the Persian Gulf situation has led us to realize that "the world is one family." It appears that the Persian Gulf situation will greatly affect our international relations, as well as our daily lives.

First, it appears, the Persian Gulf situation will affect our northern policies.

The government has said that it "would go to Pyongyang via Moscow and Beijing." It has also set the ambitious diplomatic goals for this year of entering the United Nations, establishing diplomatic relations with China, and opening the "tightly-closed" door of Pyongyang by holding summit talks.

However, since the Persian Gulf war broke out, our admission into the United Nations, the first step in this process, has become doubtful.

This is because, irrespective of whether the Persian Gulf war ends shortly or turns into a protracted war, the attention of the United Nations and of the Security Council, which holds the key to our admission into the United Nations, will focus on the Middle East for the time being.

In an effort to enter the United Nations before the end of this year, the government has made diplomatic efforts via the United States and other allies of ours to ensure that China will not veto our admission.

The Persian Gulf war appears to have reduced our government's diplomatic efforts.

A pertinent government official said: "The United States, which is in a position to strongly dissuade China from casting a veto, is busy with the Middle East problem. Also, it will not try to impose any more burden on China in an effort to prevent it from leaving the united front against Iraq." He also said: "Accordingly, we will suffer a serious setback in our northern diplomatic policy, which is designed to allow us to enter the United Nations and establish diplomatic relations with China before the end of this year."

Second, since the ROK has joined the multinational forces, it will have uncomfortable relations with Arab nationalists.

Iraq and the multinational forces are confronting each other in the Persian Gulf war. If this war is linked to the Israeli-Palestinian problem, it will very likely turn into a war between Arab nationalism and Zionism.

Because the ROK has been on the side of the multinational forces by deciding to send a medical team, this will very likely cause resistance from the Arab nationalists.

Another pertinent government official said: "Even when Israel participates in the war, it is not likely that Arab nationalism will be heightened at once, because the Arabs are so divided that Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and some other countries have joined the multinational forces." He also said: "Our position in the Arab world, which we have consolidated since we entered the Middle East construction markets in the 1970's, may erode in some Arab countries."

The third issue is ROK-U.S. relations.

The authorities think that because war broke out, the United States will sooner or later ask the ROK to donate an additional amount of money for the upkeep of the multinational forces and that, if the war is likely to be prolonged, the United States will very likely ask the ROK to send its combat troops.

Such requests will stimulate anti-U.S. sentiment among people in the ROK, thus cooling ROK-U.S. relations, which are already undergoing a delicate change because of the drastic development of ROK-Soviet relations, trade friction, and the Uruguay Round negotiations.

In the meantime, if the dispatch of the ROK's combat troops to the Persian Gulf becomes a reality, this will strengthen the position of North Korea, which insists that the presence of the U.S. forces in Korea and the ROK's military buildup are major sources of tension on the Korean peninsula.

The Persian Gulf war is the first regional dispute after the 1988 Malta U.S.-Soviet summit talks created a global ruling system in which the United States plays a leading role. Therefore, international affairs experts predict that this war will greatly affect international relations.

In particular, because of a U.S. strategy to "rule the world at someone else's expense," a strategy that took form in this war for the first time, any future regional dispute will likely impose a financial burden on the ROK's economy. Another pertinent government official said: "The current situation has given us a good opportunity to realize the limitations of the ROK's diplomacy, which has given utmost priority to the United States, Japan, and other of our allies." He also said: "It is necessary for us to develop capabilities to independently gather and analyze information and to diversity our diplomatic activities in order to actively carry out diplomatic activities in step with the dynamic change of the global order."

China Refuses To Give Koreans Journalist Visas

SK2801050891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0441 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Hong Kong, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—A group of South Korean journalists were recently issued tourist visas by the Chinese Government after it refused to give them the journalist visas that they had been promised in November.

The Koreans left Hong Kong for Beijing on their tourist visas Sunday to cover the opening of the Korean trade representative office in the Chinese capital Wednesday. Seoul and Beijing have no diplomatic relations and China has never issued journalist visas to Korean reporters.

The Korean Consulate in Hong Kong said it heard from the Hong Kong bureau of XINHUA News Agency that the Chinese Government was not ready to issue the visas because it did not know when the trade office would open.

The reporters say the Chinese Government changed its mind at the last minute. It agreed to issue journalist visas in November last year and asked Korean news organizations for information on the reporters they would dispatch.

The refusal to issue the visas means China is avoiding the development of official relations with South Korea and can be understood as a sign that the Korean trade office in Beijing is in for a rough ride for the time being, according to Korean officials here.

PRC Issues Journalist Visas

SK2801102891 Seoul YONHAP in English 1014 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Beijing, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—The Chinese Government has issued journalist visas to a group of Hong Kong-based South Korean correspondents, allowing them to cover the opening of the Korean Trade Representative Office in the Chinese capital on Wednesday.

It was the first time that the Chinese authorities gave journalist visas to South Korean reporters.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Monday notified the issuance of five-day journalist visas for the Korean reporters through the Hong Kong branch of the XINHUA News Agency.

Korean correspondents, however, already flew to Beijing on Sunday on tourist visas because they had been told by the South Korean consulate in Hong Kong that the Chinese Government was not ready to issue journalist visas since it did not know when the trade office would open.

The Hong Kong-based Korean correspondents had applied for journalist visas through the Hong Kong bureau of XINHUA in November.

Trade Office in Beijing Set To Open 30 Jan

SK2101044091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0414 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 21 (YONHAP)—The South Korean trade representative office in Beijing will be formally opened on Jan. 30, the Foreign Ministry said Monday. No Chae-won, chief of the trade office affiliated with the state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra) in Beijing, will leave Friday to take up his position, the Ministry said.

No will be accompanied by four officials from the Foreign Ministry and Kotra, who will serve at the mission there. A seven-person advance party has been preparing for the opening since late last year. Meanwhile, China reportedly plans to send its first trade office representative to Seoul in February.

Seoul, Budapest Initial Visa Waiver Accord

SK2201074391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0558 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Hungary initialed a visa waiver agreement Tuesday, allowing travel in each other's country for 90 days without a visa, the Foreign Ministry said.

The accord was inked by Ho I-hun, director-general of the ministry's consul and overseas residents bureau, and by Imre Sztankovics, director of consul affairs at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

The agreement will take effect by March, following domestic legal precedures. Diplomats and official passport holders have been allowed in without a visa for 30 days since February 1989, when the two countries established diplomatic ties.

No Tae-u Stresses Need for Technical Manpower

SK2201001591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u has asked for "prompt and bold" measures to solve the ever-worsening shortage of technical manpower.

In particular, the President stressed the need to increase the number of students at science and engineering colleges in the metropolitan area, which he said was necessary to solve the shortage of skilled technicians.

Briefed on a plan to revise the college entrance formula at Chongwadae yesterday, No noted that the nation's industries suffer from a serious dearth of technical manpower, although some 500,000 college aspirants flunk the college entrance test and flood society annually without any definite plans. "In order to break this shortage, intensive programs should be worked out and carried out promptly and boldly," the President stressed in the meeting.

No also asked education officials to "finalize the plan to change the current system for college entrance as soon as possible after it is fully reviewed by experts and in public hearings."

In his New Year press conference on Jan. 8, No suggested that colleges be given a free hand in selecting freshmen from 1994. No said, "The education administration has to help foster and produce manpower the society requires to back up social and economic progress, but in reality the opposite is true." "Vocational training and guidance counselling for high school students have been neglected, so far," the President deplored.

Pointing out that for the past 10 years only four technical high schools were founded across the nation, the President instructed education officials to make haste with plans to increase the number of vocational high schools.

Premier Comments on Existence of Dissident Groups

SK2401110091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1025 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—There are more than 40 organizations causing social disturbance, demanding "democratic revolution by the masses" in South Korea and they are joined by over 10,000 people, Prime Minister No Chae-pong said Thursday.

Answering lawmakers' questions during the National Assembly interpellation, No said those who voice the need for the same violent revolution as claimed by North Korea would face stern punishment. He said South and North Korea could discuss the statutes of the ruling Workers (communist) Party, Constitution and Penal Code of North Korea along with South Korea's National Security Law in the fourth round of prime ministers' talks scheduled for next month. He, however, reiterated the position that the National Security Law should be maintained as long as North Korea does not give up its policy to unify the Korean Peninsula under communism. "I hope the National Assembly will revise the law keeping its basic structure based on free democracy."

Dissidents and opposition politicians have been arguing for the revision of the National Security Law as South Korea has dramatically improved ties with communist countries. South Korea and the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations on Sept. 30 last year. The law has served as the ground for punishing people who contacted North Koreans or visited the communist North Korea without government permission.

Asked if the United States has requested dispatch of Korean combat troops to the Gulf, No said, "There has never been such a request nor has our government considered it. There is no need to believe that the dispatch of the medical team will lead to dispatch of combat troops. "I don't think more troops will be needed by the multinational forces (against Iraq), because there already are deployed sizeable number of troops in the war region."

The prime minister hinted, however, that South Korea may make more financial support for the U.S.-led multinational alliance by saying, "The United States has never asked for additional financial support but with the start of the war on Jan. 17 called for the continued support of friendly governments."

Arrests Ordered 'To Prevent' Illegal Protests

SK2101030891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 21 (YONHAP)—National Police Headquarters (NPH) has ordered the arrest of 21 dissidents, including nine student activists, wanted on charges of violating security laws, a police spokesman said Monday.

NPH issued the order in a precautionary measure to prevent illegal anti-war protests and demonstrations against local elections, set for the spring, the spokesman said. Among the wanted are Yun Chin-ho, 24, chairman of the Korea University Student Council, and the chairmen of eight other university student councils, he said.

Policemen across the country were ordered to prevent illegal campaigning for local elections until Feb. 15 (Lunar New Year's day) and watch out for prospective candidates giving souvenirs to voters on the occasion of the traditional holiday, he said.

Police Raid of Radio Station Ends 7-Day Protest

SK2501042391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—Police led away 29 strikers in a raid on the Roman Catholic church radio station in Seoul Thursday, ending a seven-day protest against the firing and other heavy punishment of nine reporters.

About 600 riot troopers charged onto the eighth floor of Radio Pacis and peacefully led away the strikers, mostly reporters, after a brief discussion.

It was the second time police had broken up a strike in the South Korean media. A raid on the state-run Korea Broadcasting System netted hundreds of unionists in April last year.

The police action was officially requested by the Rev. Cho Tok-hyon, president of the network, who filed lawsuits Wednesday against the 38 strikers, including four who had already been dismissed. The strike began Jan. 18, when management fired three of nine workers involved in a disciplinary action and closed the union office because union members refused to work.

The root cause of the discord can be traced back to Sept. 5 last year, when the church cut news and special reports to increase religious broadcasting. The union said news and documentary programs were crucial and indispensable for Korean society and their battle to bring in an age of democracy.

Radio Pacis, founded by the archdiocese of Seoul, first broadcast April 15, 1990, to the capital and the surrounding province of Kyunggi. Three or four workers who took active part in the strike after they were fired will be formally charged, police said.

* Sixth Republic Courts Fifth Republic Leaders

912C0068 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
10 Dec 90 p 3

[By reporter Kim Min-pae]

[Text] **Strategic Move for Unity, Consolidation**

The leaders of the Sixth Republic are secretly pushing for a reunion with the dispersed forces of the Fifth Republic, arousing the attention of the political world.

Synchronizing with this effort to "bring the forces of the Fifth Republic into the fold," the leaders of the Sixth Republic are also reportedly making a move to bind together all the pro-government forces, including the force of the defunct Republican Party, thus arousing the interest of political circles.

The primary target of the Sixth Republic's current move to bind the forces of the Sixth and Fifth Republic together once again are former President Chon Tu-hwan, who are now residing in the Paekdam Temple, and his close aides; Chong Ho-yong, who is currently staying in the United States, and his associates; and former members of the 11th and 12th National Assembly.

According to political analysts, this attempt to achieve the "reunion" of the forces of the Sixth and Fifth Republic will have a close correlation with the future political situation which is expected to drift fast following the conclusion of the current regular session of the National Assembly.

With the bill on local autonomy likely to pass the current National Assembly session, the local assembly elections will most probably be held in three or four months, followed by the general election in early 1992, and the election of heads of local governments in the same year. According to political observers, therefore, the reunion strategy will, more immediately, be directed toward achieving the internal unity and control of the ruling camp to cope with the development of the "election-oriented political situation" centering on this series of elections.

That is not all. Observers also note the underlying functional relationship between this operation and President No Tae-u's post-term strategy and strategy related to the next presidency, based on the assumption that it will be conducive to the stability of the forces of the ruling camp to bring together the forces of the Fifth and Sixth Republic, the root of the president.

Hotline Phone Link to Paekdam Temple

The person to whom President No's key intimates are paying their utmost attention as the No. 1 target of this operation is none other than former President Chon Tu-hwan now residing in the Paekdam Temple.

Much of this move is not made known because they are very nervous about keeping the matter secret in view of the "sensitive nature" of the question of former President Chon. Nonetheless, after the end of August, past the first halfway mark of President No's term, full-scale discussions were reportedly under way concerning various ways to bring Chon into the fold.

There is even the rumor that during these discussions, it was suggested that President No visit the Paekdam Temple in strict secrecy, but the plan fell through on the grounds that such a visit was premature.

After the ROK-USSR summit talks in June, President No had a direct conversation with Chon over the hotline linked to the Paekdam Temple, explaining the outcome of the summit. According to observers, this phone call was part of the reunion strategy.

Reportedly, DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] leader Kim; Chong Ku-yong, former senior presidential secretary for civil affairs; and others, recently contacted Lawyer Yi Yang-u and other close aides of Chon several times to have an in-depth exchange of views.

Following the 23 November religious service at the Paekdam Temple marking the "full two years of seclusion" of former President Chon—which was attended by 11 former National Assembly members from the now defunct DJP [Democratic Justice Party] , including Chong Nam, Kim Chong-nam, Yom Kil-chong, and Choe Yong-tok—the rumor has been intermittently in circulation among political circles that a move is afoot among the extant elements of the Fifth Republic to establish themselves as a new political force. During the aforementioned contacts, President No's aides sounded out the Chon intimates as to the latter's real intention concerning that move, and the two sides reportedly discussed ways to shave it for a greater cause.

According to belated reports, during these contacts the key ruling party officials earnestly asked the Chon side for cooperation, presenting the argument about the fear of "together we stand; divided we fall" to the effect that if the ruling camp splits, all will fall."

It had something to do with this request that on 5 and 6 December the key Chon intimates—Chang Se-tong, former director of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP]; An Hyon-tae, former director general of the Presidential Security Force; Ho Mun-to, former minister of national unification; lawyer Yi Yang-u; and

Secretary Min Chong-ki—held an emergency meeting in the Paekdam Temple. According to rumors, the meeting discussed the "Sixth Republic card" newly presented to pave the way for a system of cooperation. However, the content of the card is kept secret.

The effort to bring the Chon force into the fold is expected to intensify from now on through Kim Yong-il, new senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, DLP floor leader Kim, and others.

Indirect Dialogues After Moving to U.S.

Chong Ho-il is also marked as one of the important targets. After suddenly withdrawing his candidature for the by-election in the Taegu West-A electoral district, Chong went to the United States. He currently resides in San Francisco.

When President No went to the United States for the ROK-USSR summit in June, he had a direct telephone conversation with Chong. According to belated reports, since then the president has been keeping in touch with Chong by sending Blue House messages to him through personages visiting the United States. Reportedly, President No instructed Kwon Ik-hyon, former chairman of the old DJP, to contact Chong on his way home from his visit to South America, which began on 15 November, in his capacity as a special presidential envoy. Kwon returned home on 9 December.

Chong stays in San Francisco with his wife, Suk-hwan Kim, and his three daughters. His eldest daughter is in Seoul attending Seoul National University. Chong is a visiting research fellow at the Hoover Institute in Stanford University.

Attention is focused on when Chon will leave the Paekdam Temple and when Chong will return home. A month ago Chong called Kang Hui-sang, his former aide for National Assembly affairs, into San Francisco, where the two live together. Some observers are wondering whether this move may not be a preliminary step to Chong's return home.

Chong is quoted as saying to the person he met recently: "I want to visit Seoul at the end of the year, but I have not made up my mind yet lest my visit should draw undue attention." It is expected that it will not be before early next year that he makes his final decision as to whether or not to visit Seoul.

Do Not Waiver

Pak Tae-chun, member of the DLP Supreme Council, and floor leader Kim have recently been contacting the former members of the 11th and 12th National Assembly from the DJP in tandem. The two DLP leaders, each time they meet these former National Assembly members, reportedly try to forge the links of reunion by stressing that "you should never waiver" and assuring that "the way is open for your chances in the forthcoming various elections."

Recently, Pak Tae-chun contacted Choe Myong-hon, Pak Ik-chu, and Yi Yong-il separately. On the other hand, since 20 December, floor leader Kim has been contacting members of "Minuhoe," an organization of former National Assembly members from the old DJP, in groups of four to nine at a time. Among other persons already contacted—most of them are ambitious to stage a comeback to the political stage—are: Minuhoe Chairman Kim Suk-hyon, Yang Chong-kyu, Ha Sunpong, Yom Kil-chong, Chong-nam, Kim Chong-nam, Pak Kyong-sok, Pak Kwon-Hum, Kang Kyong-sik, Nam Chae-tu, Yu Kyong-hyon, Chong Chae-chol, Hyon Kyong-tae, Yu Kun-hang, Yi Tae-sun, Yi Sang-ik, Wang Sang-un, and Yi Pom-chun.

Floor leader Kim plans to successively contact former National Assembly members who previously belonged to the DJP, including Han Kap-su, Yi Yong-taek, Pae Myong-kuk, Chong Pyong-u, Yu Hung-su, and Yi Yongho.

It is noteworthy that the list of persons to be contacted includes Chon Yong-ye, Kil Chon-sik, Kim Yong-tae, Yi Man-sop and other former Republican Party officials.

* ROK Firms Establishing R&D Centers Abroad

WA0115020091 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 19 Dec 90 p 10

[Text] An increasing number of ROK companies are establishing research and development [R&D] centers abroad. While the acquisition of new technology is essential for a healthy economy, there are tendencies among the advanced nations to refuse technology transfers, with the walls of protectionism continuing to grow higher.

Since it has become increasingly difficult to induce high-tech scientists to return to South Korea, a growing number of companies are opening up their own R&D centers abroad as a means of indirectly importing technology. Overseas offices and research centers have contributed to the field surveying of market demand or the establishment of marketing strategies.

At present, more than ten companies have overseas centers engaged in information collection needed for the development of new technology. They include Samsung Electronics, Goldstar, Daewoo Electronics, Hyundai Motors, and Kia Motors. Some companies have two or three centers.

Goldstar, which established a research center in Tokyo in 1981 and became the first Korean company to undertake such a step, in 1984 founded another research center in California to gather information on semiconductors and personal computers [PC's]. This California R&D center, consisting of 96 people, has developed key components for various PC's produced by Goldstar. More recently, it has undertaken information collection and research for the development of mini-sized and larger computers.

There are many small American companies which have technological know-how but are short of funds. Therefore, to some Korean companies possessing funds but which are unable to land suitable domestic contracts, the establishment of overseas offices or R&D centers can be vital in advancing product technology.

Samsung, the first Korean firm to establish a semiconductor center in the United States, is now carrying out R&D at three other U.S. locations. Samsung's overseas semiconductor research efforts have contributed greatly to the development of most advanced semiconductor products, such as 16-megabit DRAMs [dynamic random access memory]. Considering that the lifespan of a semiconductor invention is one year, it has been said that Samsung has contributed to narrowing Korea's technological gap with Japan to a mere six months.

Daewoo also has opened R&D centers in Japan and the United States. Examples among medium-sized companies are Maxon Electronics, which established a research center in the United States in 1984; and Sambo Computer, which established a research center last year and is also engaged in computer sales activities.

While Korean semiconductor companies are concentrating on acquiring new technology through their overseas centers, Korea's auto manufacturers are trying to come up with new designs and meet stringent safety standards imposed by the host countries. Hyundai has had centers in Detroit and Los Angeles since 1986. The Detroit center is studying trends in the American autombile industry and testing auto safety and exhaust systems, while the Los Angeles center concentrates on new car designs.

Kia Motors has centers in Japan and the United States doing research in two areas—engine efficiency and automobile design.

The sole pharmaceutical company to expand abroad, Cheil Sugar Company, opened an R&D center in New Jersey in 1983. The center is engaged in developing various pharmaceutical products and genetic engineering research. Cheil is said to have made notable progress in interferon research.

These efforts by ROK industries have encountered obstacles. Because of foreign exchange regulations, it is difficult to remit the necessary funds to operate these overseas centers. Furthermore, South Korea's "8 May Real Estate Law" makes it difficult to purchase an overseas construction site for a research center.

There is a feeling in business circles that in order to promote overseas research activities, the current foreign exchange regulations must be revised and government assistance to overseas development must be strengthened through the modification of finance and taxation policies.

Listing of Overseas R&D Centers of ROK Companies

Company	Location	Establishment Date	Major Activities
Daewoo Electronics	Tokyo	83/5	Information collection on new technology
	Santa Clara, CA	88/11	Computer development
Samsung	New Jersey	89/9	Development of HD[high-definition]TV system
	Tokyo	87/5	New technology information collection
	Osaka, Japan	90/10	VTR [videotape recorder] development
	California	1983	Semiconductor production, sales
Goldstar	Tokyo	81/1	Designs; technology research
	California	84/7	Semiconductors; industrial instruments; circuit design
Maxon Electronics	Kansas	84/4	Product sales research
Sambo Computer	California	89/3	Computer development
Hyundai Motors	Detroit	86/5	Automobile testing
Kia Motors	Tokyo	88/7	Engine research
	Detroit	89/11	Design research
Cheil Sugar	New Jersey	1983	Pharmaceutical R&D

Burma

Khin Nyunt Addresses 108th News Conference

Part One

BK2601115391 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1300 GMT 25 Jan 91

[First part of a speech by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, delivered at the "special 108th news conference" for local and foreign journalists at the Defense Ministry in Rangoon on 25 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] Members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and cabinet members led by the minister of home and religious affairs, senior departmental officials, local and foreign journalists, members of the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections, senior military officials, and invited guests: I hereby declare the special 108th news conference of the SLORC open by extending auspicious greetings to you. My presentation today is likely to be lengthy as the matters I will explain today have to be presented in relation to what I had explained on previous occasions. I beg the journalists and guests present here to be patient with my lengthy presentation. [passage omitted]

I would first like to explain the latest expose on underground movements of the BCP [Burma Communist Party]. [passage omitted] I had already explained how the BCP Central sent Kyaw Mya, alias Hla Thaung, to engage in underground activities. [passage omitted] Continued investigations of the BCP UG [underground] activities by the intelligence organizations led to the arrest of Maung Ko, the so-called regional secretary of the BCP UG 4828 Regional Committee, on 10 December 1990 at his residence in Lot No. 405-B, Taungmyintmaw West Ward, Mandalay Southwest Township, together with his aide, Kyaw Maung.

At the same time, Kyaw Mya, alias Hla Thaung, member of the 4828 Regional Party Committee and a leading member of the BCP UG movement, was arrested along with his wife, Ma Khin Mar, alias Kyaw Lay Yee, a BCP UG and a telecommunications employee, on 11 December 1990 at their residence in South Okkalapa, Yangon [Rangoon]. [passage omitted]

Correspondence between Kyaw Mya and Maung Ko, BCP propaganda materials, negative films, a house and land bought with proceeds from the BCP UG fund, modern and powerful Sony radios used for intercepting communications, cameras, photographic development equipment, jewelry sent from the BCP Central for use in UG activities, kyat 19,404 in cash, assorted wigs, hats, spectacles used for disguises, national registration cards with the names of various persons, citizenship certificates, employee identification cards from the Ministry of Energy, and other paraphenalia were consifcated from Kyaw Mya and Maung Ko.

Further investigations led to the arrest of 30 persons. Among them were BCP UG cell leaders and members planted in various strata of society in Yangon, Mandalay, Madaya, Pyint Ulwin [Maymyo], Nawnghkio, Meiktila, Pyawbwe, Yamethin, Prome, and Paukkaung, those active in towns after receiving DPA [Democratic Patriotic Army] training, and those planted among departmental personnel. [passage omitted]

There were altogether 30 personnel planted in various ministries. There were two in the Ministry of Mines, five in the Ministry of Energy, two in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, one in the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs, two in the Ministry of Cooperatives, three in the Ministry of Industry-1, four in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, three in the Ministry of Planning and Finance, five in the Ministry of Education, one in the Ministry of Trade, one law officer, and one Auditing Office employee. I mention this to clearly point out the infiltration of their UG's in the ministries.

According to the disclosures made by those arrested, some of the personnel's direct contact with the BCP Central date as far back as 10 years, even before they had contact with Kyaw Mya. Therefore, it is evident that the BCP UG operation has firmly infiltrated every one of our ministries. [passage omitted]

The policies of the BCP UG's exposed by us are as follows: They are to prepare armed base areas while reinforcing the armed struggle; to reinforce and assist the student, monastic and public movement; to provide assistance to sustain the religious strike by the monks; to establish unions in the form of semi-UG [preceding word in English] operation; to assist the political parties' movement, especially to coordinate with the National League for Democracy; and to strive for psychological disintegration of the Defense Services if physical disintegration is not possible. It can be noted that the methods used for disintegration were also written down. It was learned that the BCP UG's had planned not to be involved in these operations themselves, but they were to control the operations from behind by advising and instigating other organizations. [passage omitted]

I have explained much on how the BCP used their UG's to create the disturbances of 1988—the 50th anniversary of the year 1300 [Burmese Era year marking the 1938 nationalist movement]—to realize its objective of attaining state power by 1989, the 50th anniversary of the founding of the BCP. I have explained quite extensively how the BCP infiltrated government personnel to realize their objective, how they approached and instigated political parties, strove to control youths and students, and approached and instigated monks.

They operated according to their motto: Build up strength as a long-term investment; wait for the right opportunity. Although we can say that we have been able to reduce the BCP threat considerably by exposing the BCP UG's, it is neccessary for the public to be constantly vigilant against the BCP threat because the BCP has been able to infiltrate every strata of the society over a long period. The majority of the BCP UG's we have been able to expose were government employees, doctors, school teachers, and lawyers. [passage omitted]

The ability to expose the BCP UG's has not stopped them. The unseen threats of the BCP UG's remain. I would like to urge the public not to forget these threats. They should remain vigilant against these threats which can destroy the country. Regardless of what happens to the country, the BCP is solely concerned about obtaining power. The power-hungry BCP UG's are prepared to do anything for power. I would like to urge the senior and various levels of departmental authorities to be extremely cautious so that the subordinates cannot do as they please and the BCP UG's cannot infiltrate and operate according to their wishes. [passage omitted]

In the second part of my presentation, I would like to explain about the information on some internal affairs of the northern branch of the All Burma Students Democratic Front [ABSDF] in Kachin State. During a clash between a combined unit of the ABSDF and the KIA [Kachin Independence Army] and a military column from the Northern Military Command on 13 December 1990, Than Tun Soe, alias Taik Pake, a private from the ABSDF 701st Battalion, was captured. [passage omitted]

On 9 June 1989 while in Yangon Taik Pake and Ye Moe Hein visited the residence of Daw Suu Kyi [Aung San Suu Kyi] and met with her through Ko Maw, alias Min Maw Lwin, who is in charge of her immediate security. Taik Pake informed Daw Suu Kyi that they were with the ABSDF in Kachin State, that they were in Rangoon on a mission, and that they brought along video tapes for viewing by youths and students in town. She was informed that there were about 200 ABSDF members in the Kachin State receiving assistance from the KIA. It was learned that she was asked about her attitude toward the ABSDF, Kachin State.

Daw Suu Kyi was supposed to have replied: Please stay united. The presence of students outside constitute a force for advocates of democracy. It was learned she gave such words of encouragement. So that was Daw Suu Kyi's attitude. [passage omitted]

On 11 June 1989 Taik Pake, together with Ye Moe Hein, met Mr. David Alexander, an attache at the British Embassy, in the office of Daw Nita Yin Yin May, a British Embassy employee. The situation in the jungle was explained during the meeting and they asked what the attitude toward them was. Mr. Alexander replied that he had nothing special to say and that their attitude should have been apparent by the act of receiving representatives from organizations in the jungle fighting against the government. That is the attitude of foreign diplomats toward armed insurgent organizations in the jungle. They may deny if they dare. Deny if they dare. It was learned that Daw Nita Yin Yin May made a copy of the ABSDF tape. [passage omitted]

Next, I would like to explain the capture of those who attempted to sabotage the transmitter station near Yegu Railway Station in Mayangon township.

The saboteurs, with their equipment, entered Yangon to commit sabotage. An explosion occurred near Yegu Transmitter Station, Eighth Ward, Mayangon township, at 2120 on 6 January 1991. When security forces searched the vicinity of the site of explosion, they found a used M-67 rocket launcher shell near the railway tracks about 150 yards south of the Yegu Railway Station. The following morning, an unexploded M-67 rocket launcher, along with a timer, was discovered near the explosion site on the bund of a vegetable patch. The saboteurs, under the cover of darkness and hidden by the vegetable patch bund, fired at the Yegu Transmitter Station about 500 yards away. But they missed the transmitter station and instead hit the vegetable patch bund about 10 yards away.

The National Intelligence Bureau [NIB] made thorough investigations and the Police Special Branch [SB] arrested four people in connection with the sabotage at the Yangon Central Railway Station on 16 January 1991. Those arrested were Khin Zaw, son of U Shwe Lay, No. 634, Coir Rope Factory Street, Hsalein-Kagyi Ward, Thingangyun township; Myo Aung Htwe, son of U Tin Aung, No. 1131, Yathawadi Street, No. 13 Ward, South Okkalapa township; Soe Myint Aye, son of U Htwe Myint—vice chairman of the Democracy Party— No. 290, 28th Street, No. 13 Ward, South Okkalapa township; and Aung Kyaw Moe, son of U Maung Ni, No. 2, Aungzeya 8th street, No.1 Temporary Ward, Thingangyun township.

With the information from them, the SB arrested Min Han, alias Po Cho, alias Ba Min Thit, son of U Ba Han, residing at No. 65, 165th Street, Khagwe Ward, Tamwe township, the same day. The main people involved in the sabotage activities were arrested on 17 January 1991. They were Yan Naing Aung, son of U Mya Shwe, residing at No. 544, Kangyihan Street, Hsalein-Khagwe Ward, Thingangyun township; Aung Kyaing son of U Thaung Shwe residing at No. 190, 39th Street, Kyauktada township; Bo Htay Lwin alias Ba U, son of U Ba Htwe, residing at No. 1131, Yathawadi Street, No. 13 Ward, South Okkalapa township; Aung Than, son of U Maung Maung, residing at No. 78, Tagaunglay Street, No. 5 Ward, South Okkalapa township; Zaw Myint, son of U Nyunt Maung, residing at No. 57, Shuhnit Street, No. 5A Ward, Thingangyun township, and Hla Aung, son of U Thein Aung, residing at No. G/666 Myawitye Street, Hsalein/Khagwe Ward, Thingangyun township.

According to Aung Than's information, the materials for sabotage activities were confiscated from the ceiling of Shop No. 8/42/Ka, New Nandawun Market, South Okkalapa township, at 2000 the same day. They were one M-67 rocket launcher, one M-79 rocket launcher, one M- 20 pistol with one magazine and 23 rounds, three packets of TNT, six plastic explosives, four wire clips, four fuses, 10 electric detonators, two timers, two battery cases, three ordinary mines, three plastic mines, and four bulbs connected with twin wires. At 2030, four plastic explosives, an electric detonator, and two batteries were also seized from the toilet of Hla Aung's house. [passage omitted]

With information received from those arrested, two plastic explosives without fuses, two plastic explosives with fuses, one bottle of acid, five fragments of a plastic explosive, one plastic explosive in a plastic bag, five electronic detonators, and two fuses 1.5 feet long also were confiscated. Some of the confiscated objects are being displayed here, while photographs of some materials and explosives are being shown for safety reasons. The explosive materials were brought into Yangon in two batches, the first by Bo Htay Lwin from the KNU [Karen National Union] Headquarters at Manerplaw in June 1990, and the second by Bo Htay Lwin, Kyaw Zaw U, and Maung Win from Manerplaw in August 1990.

Those responsible for attacking the Yegu Transmission Station with two M-67 rocket launchers were Kyaw Zaw U and Aung Than. Aung Than has already been captured, while Maung Win and Kyaw Zaw U have fled. Responsible personnel are making efforts to capture them. [passage omitted]

There were some orders given to Ba Min Thit by the KNU leader Bo Mya. They are to be carried out when the opportunity arises. They were instructed to bomb foreign companies opened under permission of the SLORC, the Thai Embassy, oil tankers, and foreign ships, to attack prisons to free prisoners and also to send weapons for Irawaddy Division and Yangon Division and to rescue Daw Suu Kyi.

Bo Mya gave separate orders to Bo Htay Lwin. He was given demolition materials and about 14,000 [currency not specified] in cash. He was instructed to bomb important buildings in Yangon in August 1990 and, if that was not possible, to intimidate the public by causing explosions at suitable places. These are the atrocities of KNU leader Bo Mya.

Part Two

BK2701120991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1307 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Continuation and final part of speech by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, delivered at the "special 108th news conference" for local and foreign journalists at the Defense Ministry in Rangoon on 25 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I will now discuss problems associated with the National League for Democracy [NLD] and the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma. I have explained at the 107th news conference on 7 December 1990 regarding the probe into, arrest of, and legal action being taken against some elected NLD representatives as well as pro-NLD independent representatives who planned the establishment of a parallel government in Mandalay and a provisional government in the jungles. In this connection, necessary legal action is being taken against 35 of them—the seriousness of the charge depending on the extent of individual involvement in the incident.

While these investigations were going on, a total of 11 elected representatives—one representative of the Party for National Democracy, eight NLD representatives, and two independent representatives—turned their back on the legal fold and absconded. They are Sein Win, Party for National Democracy representative of Paukkaung Constituency; Thein Oo, NLD representative of Mandalay Southwest Constituency-2; Hla Pe, NLD representative of Pyawbwe Constituency-2; Than Kywe, NLD representative for Shwedaung Constituency-1; Si Maung, NLD representative of Lemyethna Constituency; Tint Swe, NLD representative of Pale Constituency; Bo Hla Tint, NLD representative of Mogok Constituency-2; Win Ko, NLD representative of Ye-U Constituency-2; Tun Oo, NLD representative of Kyaukkyi Constituency; Peter Lin Pin, independent representative of Pyin-U-Lwin Constituency-2; and Sann Aung, independent representative of Ingabu Constituency-2.

Not long after, we received information that some of them had reached the border areas. We therefore declared the 11 representatives as absconders from justice on 9 December 1990.

Of these 11 absconders, eight representatives headed by Sein Win, representative of Paukkaung, as well as the chairman of the National Party for Democracy, formed the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma at the KNU Headquarters in Manerplaw on 18 December 1990. [passage omitted]

Regarding the question of elected representatives having signed an agreement on the establishment of a parallel and a provisional government in the jungle, elected representatives have said the signatures they had signed five times when the Gandhi Declaration was issued [by the NLD] may have been used in another context. The majority of the NLD representatives have said that Sein Win and his party may have misused the documents bearing their signatures.

In addition, when the National Intelligence Bureau called in and questioned political parties regarding the formation of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, the parties said they do not support that government and that their parties had nothing to do with it. To date, we have questioned the attitudes of 88 parties regarding this government. [passage omitted]

We find that some people from the NLD have always worked against the government and the Defense Services. Since earlier on, they started the policy of defying authority. They harbored absconders from law and insurgents in their headquarters, which has become a refuge for people opposing the government. Although being a major political party, it always takes a negative view of the stance and activities of the Defense Services. There are many in that party who understand the history of the Defense Services. Either from what is being done today or from a historical viewpoint, it is time that they have a clear understanding of the Defense Services. None of us—the leaders of the Defense Services—is working for his own interest; what we have been doing is only for our country. We are working tirelessly and diligently for the people and the country. Despite such pure intentions, there are yet people, organizations, and political parties who try to smear us and make false allegations. Let me state it very clearly here. If things get out of hand, we will have to take action according to law.

Let me continue with the return to the legal fold of some members of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma. On 19 January 1991, U Than Kywe and U Myint Aung, members of the National Coalition Government, Union of Burma, contacted and reported to Colonel Ba Hein, Myanmar [Burmese] military attache in Bangkok of their own free will.

U Than Kywe, NLD representative of the Shwedaung Constituency-1, left for the jungles together with Bo Hla Tint, Peter Lin Pin, and Hla Pe in October 1990 and is the minister of cooperatives and trade in the Sein Win-led government formed at the KNU Headquarters in Manerplaw.

U Myint Aung is the NLD representative for Kama Constituency. He was not in the original cabinet list of the Sein Win-led government but was named the minister for agriculture and forests in the supplementary list.

According to the statements by U Than Kywe, he was told by the NLD organizer for Pegu Division, Aung Soe U, that it was difficult for parliamentary representatives to hold meetings in Mandalay and other cities, and hence, to hold a meeting far from a city area to discuss the formation of a government that does not accept orders from any organization and that would not undertake an armed struggle, he went along with the group comprising Hla Pe, Bo Hla Tint, Peter Lin Pin, and Aung Soe U. Only when he was at U Sein Mya's camp did he realize he was at an insurgent camp.

U Than Kywe said he found Sein Win and Win Ko consulting with U Sein Mya on the plan for a long-term armed struggle with support from the insurgents. He said he no longer had faith in the group and because he did not like the armed struggle, he had come back to the legal fold.

U Myint Aung said he had gone along because he believed Yan Aung, an NLD organizer for Pegu Division, who said they were having a meeting on the formation of a Parliamentary Affairs Committee. Only when he was at an insurgent camp did he learn about the plan to form a government. He said he did not have any interest and that he did not like the armed struggle policy. He had returned to the legal fold after discussing the matter with U Than Kywe.

The two men were treated well at the Myanmar Embassy in Thailand and were brought safely to Yangon on 23 January 1991 after consultations between the governments of our two countries. They are being treated well and taken care of now. When we debriefed them, we received important news.

Before Sein Win left for the jungles, we understand he had prior contacts and consultations with U Sein Mya. According to what was said to U Than Kywe and the others, Sein Win was promised:

1. A liberated zone;

2. Support of some 20 countries, including the members of the European Community;

3. The pledge of loyalty by the three armed insurgent organizations—the KNU, the KIO [Kachin Independent Organization], and the Mon insurgent organization;

4. A broadcasting station; and

5. Ninety percent of the facts stated above are plausible, and hence a decision was made to work in the jungles.

[Passage omitted] On 29 November 1990, Sein Win and his group arrived at the KNU Headquarters in Manerplaw. Following this, they had talks between 6 and 8 December 1990 with DAB [Democratic Alliance of Burma] members—Bo Mya [KNU leader], Brang Seng [KIO leader], Zau Seng [KIO leader], Phado Than Aung [KNU leader], Phado Ba Thin [KNU leader], Nai Shwe Kyin [Mon leader], Nai Yaw Za [Mon leader], Moe Thee Zun [All Burma Students' Democratic Front leader], U Thwin [leader of Parliamentary Democracy Party], and Tin Maung Win [of the Committee for Restoration of Democracy in Burma].

Secret agreements were made at the meeting. This is very important. Sein Win signed the agreements for one side while KNU leader Bo Mya signed for the other side. There were four points secretly agreed upon with the DAB:

1. To establish a free, fair, prosperous, peaceful, federal state of Burma.

2. To set up a parallel government and, when recognition comes from foreign governments, to include DAB representatives in the expanded coalition government before the transfer of power can take place.

What they mean by DAB representatives here is insurgent organizations. This is very important.

3. To include DAB representatives when convening a national convention to draft a state constitution.

This point is also very important. Let me repeat that. To include DAB representatives—insurgent representatives, that is—when convening a national convention to draft a state constitution.

4. To permit autonomy for the ethnic nationals. Let me repeat, to permit autonomy for the ethnic nationals.

We have been able to expose their secret agreements and how very dangerous they are for the country. Through you, the journalists, I have reported to the country these important secret agreements that have been signed by Sein Win and Bo Mya. [passage omitted]

I will now explain the latest situation regarding two people from the People's Republic of China who came to be in the compound of the U.S. Embassy. [passage omitted]

Of the two persons involved, Wan Phu Wei, alias Wan Ta Wei, was detained by our security units at 1520 on 2 January 1991 as he left Washington Park—an embassy compound. [passage omitted]

The two people had stayed in Washington Park for about six months. Because there was no improvement in his status, Wan Phu Wei tried leaving the compound on 1 January to seek the assistance of the Myanmar Government. He was stopped, however, by the guards and taken back to a place reserved for him. On the evening of 2 January, he tried leaving the compound again. The security guards tried stopping him, but only half-heartedly. Wan Phu Wei, therefore, came out of the gate when he was arrested by our security forces at 1520.

We tried to find out about Kyan Lin, who remained in the embassy compound. We understand that he was a worker at the Nanjing paper mill in Nanjing, Fujian Province. He was an instructor of an artillery unit in the People's Liberation Army, but we understand from Wan Phu Wei that Kyan Lin had not given his true background at the American Embassy. According to the latest reports, Kyan Lin was sent to Bangkok by air under arrangements by the UNDP [UN Development Program] on 24 January, yesterday. Kyan Lin, alias (Zhou Zouwa), left on a THAI international flight.

Wan Phu Wei, who is in our hands, will face charges according to the laws of our country. [passage omitted]

Next, I would like to explain matters concerning a group that had tried to implement UG activities in Myanmar [Burma] in collaboration with the ABSDF insurgents. I have already explained the politically motivated alms offering ceremony in Mandalay on 8 August 1990 in commemoration of 8-8-88 [the beginning of mass pro-democracy demonstrations], when disturbances broke out with security forces. I have also explained the activities of the BCP [Burma Communist Party] UG on this matter. The legal actions taken by the State Law and Order Restoration Council concerning these affairs were explained in detail at the 107th news conference. The undertakings of the SLORC for the promulgation and propagation of the Buddhist faith are presented occasionally by the newspapers, radio, and television to inform the public. I have also presented the activities of the SLORC on illegal monk organizations and legal actions taken against them. While performing these activities a new organization emerged. This illegal organization is none other than the YMF, Young Monks Front, formed by some radical monks who wanted to cause disturbances. After their formation, they made contacts with the All Burma Federation of Students Union [ABFSU], Lower Burma, and gave guidelines to create political unrest in Yangon by causing continuous disturbances. The connections of the ABFSU, Lower Burma, were later exposed and ABFSU, Lower Burma, Central Executive Committee member Aung Kyaw Myint, alias Saw Ye Ni, alias Naung Naung, son of U Maung Myint, of No. 12/A-1 Kokkaing Yeiktha Road, Shwe Taung Gya-2 Ward, Bahan township, Yangon; and ABSFU, Lower Burma, committee member Saw Sanda Nwe, daughter of U Saw Thayar, were both captured on 9 January 1991. [passage omitted]

Saw Sanda Nwe, member of ABFSU, Lower Burma, revealed that contact was made with Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein, general secretary of the Anti-Fascist Peoples' Freedom League [AFPFL], Central Headquarters, to receive help in sending anti-government propaganda leaflets to foreign embassies. Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein next made contact with Shwe Hti from the ABSDF insurgent group on 13 December 1990. [passage omitted]

Procedures are being made to take legal action against those people and monks involved. [passage omitted]

I would next explain the present situation of the political parties. If you study the prevailing political situation, you will notice that the Gandhi Declaration was issued at the first coordination meeting between the the National League for Democracy Central Executive Committee [CEC] and elected NLD People's Assembly members, held at the Gandhi Memorial Hall on 28-29 July 1990. The SLORC issued Declaration No. 1/90 on 27 July 1990 prior to the Gandhi meeting, but the NLD continued to issue the Gandhi Declaration. The Gandhi Declaration stated that a National Assembly be convened in September to transfer power with a temporary constitution, and that the drawing of a new constitution be done only with People's Assembly members. At the eighth NLD news conference, the NLD demanded the convening of the National Assembly in September; the transfer of power; a meeting with the SLORC; and the release of U Tin U, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and all political prisoners. The NLD also declared SLORC's Declaration No. 1/90 unacceptable. The discussions following the Gandhi meeting were all centered around these demands. The NLD's CEC meeting No. 5/90 held on 12 September 1990, stated that in order to draw a new constitution with the intention of forming a new democratic union, the NLD would take the initiative and make necessary preparations in accordance with the NLD's Election Declaration and the Gandhi Declaration, and also to inform the SLORC of the NLD's programs and proposal for a coordination meeting. A bulletin explaining the resolutions of the CEC's meeting No. 5/90 was distributed to various states, divisions, and township organizing committees on 17 September 1990.

The majority of the organizing committees opposed NLD's 5/90 stating that it is like giving in to SLORC Declaration No. 1/90. [passage omitted]

There are many groups and people taking advantage of the Gulf war by spreading rumors that the Gulf situation can affect Myanmar. They listen to the daily BBC and VOA broadcasts, make their own meaningless assumptions and draw their own irrelevant conclusions. There are also many traders and merchants who are profiting by spreading rumors about the Gulf war and causing the rise in basic commodity prices. Many groups and people from all strata of life are doing things their in own way for their own personal gain during these times. I would like to remind you that the SLORC is closly monitoring the situation and all activities are known to us. [passage omitted]

Opposition: Rival Government Leaders 'Kidnapped'

BK2601044991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Burma's army rulers said yesterday that two dissidents who last month helped set up a rival government in the jungle had surrendered, but opposition sources said they had been kidnapped.

Major-General Khin Nyunt, secretary of the military council that has ruled Burma under martial law for the past two years, said that Kywe and Myint Aung had handed themselves over to Rangoon's embassy in Bangkok earlier this month.

"They gave themselves up because they declared that they did not like to take up arms against the government," he told a news conference.

"They have returned to Rangoon on January 23 with the cooperation of the Thai authorities and are presently undergoing a debriefing," he said.

"We are looking after them well, and will continue to question them about the situation at the border," Khin Nyunt said.

A spokesman for the rival government said the two had been kidnapped while in Bangkok for medical treatment on January 19. One source said they were flown back to Rangoon on Thursday.

"They were forcefully abducted by intelligence officers from the Burmese Embassy here and coerced into the embassy compound," the spokesman said.

The two were among legislators-elect who set up a rival government near the Thai border in December to push for the overthrow of Burma's military regime, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC).

Than Kywe held the post of trade minister in the alternate government while Myint Aung had the agriculture portfolio.

Another Burmese opposition source in Bangkok said the two men were tricked into going to the embassy.

A senior Karen official said the circumstances of the detention of the two leaders was not completely clear.

"They came to Bangkok on their way back to our headquarters after a visit to allied forces who asked not to be named.

He said the escort for the leaders left them temporarily at a Bangkok guesthouse and when he returned they were gone.

"We learned subsequently that they were convinced by another Burmese to move to a safer location. Instead they were taken to the embassy," he said.

"They were tricked," he said.

The official said his group speculated that the men were threatened with harm to their families if they did not agree to return to Rangoon.

Thai officials, he said, were reported to have allowed the repatriation on assurances that it was voluntary and that no harm would come to the men.

"It is an embarrassment. We were caught off guard," he said.

The National League for Democracy [NLD] opposition party has been barred from forming a government despite winning a landslide election victory last May. All but one of the politicians who set up the alternate government were elected members of the NLD.

Khin Nyunt, who is often seen as the most powerful member of the ruling military junta, charged that the rival "National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma," headed by Sein Win as prime minister was little more than a tool of the ethnic Karen insurgency.

"Sein Win and his rival government are no more than underlings of Karen National Union [KNU] chief Bo Mya and are being used by the KNU for seeking foreign aid," he said.

Khin Nyung also disclosed that two Chinese citizens in Burma sought asylum at the US embassy in Rangoon last year, but the embassy failed to report it to the Burmese government.

He said one of the Chinese, identified as Wan Phu Wei, was later arrested by Burmese security officials when he left an embassy residence. It was not immediately clear what had been done with him.

The other man, named Kyan Lin, was flown to Bangkok with the help of the United Nations Development Programme.

Khin Nyunt also said an attempt by saboteurs to infiltrate Rangoon, free opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and other detainees, and attack a number of targets in Rangoon had been foiled.

Suu Kyi, head of the NLD, has been under house arrest since July 1989.

Khin Nyunt said a team of 15 saboteurs had been caught in a security dragnet following an attempt by two of them to attack radio installations.

6 Killed, 18 Injured in Passenger Boat Ambush

BK2501155991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1300 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Insurgents have been disrupting peace and tranquillity and maiming innocent people by shooting at passengers on motor vehicles and launches with rocket launchers and small arms.

A combined force of 30 KIA [Kachin Independence Army] and ABSDF [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] insurgents ambushed the Inland Water Transport-owned (?Sagaing) passenger launch near (Gonyin) village, from the eastern bank of the Irrawaddy River with rocket launchers and small arms at 1410 [0740 GMT] on 24 January. The boat plying on the Mandalay-Bhamo route had left Shwegu at 0800 for Bhamo.

Our security forces on the launch returned fire and fought gallantly. The insurgents retreated at 1420. The passenger launch arrived at Bhamo at 1535. Six passengers were killed and 18 were wounded because of the ambush. The wounded passengers were being treated by personnel at Bhamo People's Hospital.

Defense Services columns are pursuing the fleeing insurgents.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Government Concern Over War's 'Rapid Escalation'

BK2601084891 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0808 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 26 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia voiced its concern over the rapid escalation of the Gulf war and the role of the United Nations being ignored since military action was initiated against Iraq.

In a statement read out to reporters by Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar here, the government said it was troubled that the war would take it beyond the original objectives of UN Security Council Resolution 678.

The resolution set the Jan 15 deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait or face military action. It said the resolution did not empower actions that would lead to the virtual destruction of Iraq.

"Malaysia's support for Resolution 678 and relevant resolutions to bring about the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait was in the context of a continuing central role of the UN," it said.

"Countries concerned cannot assume to draw a blank cheque from the Security Council resolution to wage total war on Iraq. Malaysia would like to see greater accountability of the actions by participating forces not only to the council but also to the general membership of the UN," it added.

The statement said since military action started, efforts to have the council consider various aspects of the war were being blocked.

Calling for a reassertion of a UN central role in the crisis, it said Malaysia would support any move within the council or any other fora such as the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) for initiatives to end the war peacefully and have Iraq withdraw from Kuwait.

Abu Hassan said the Iraqi and United States ambassadors were summoned to the Foreign Ministry here yesterday and were asked to convey the message to their respective governments.

Malaysia also expressed fears that an extended conflict would raise the spectre of general instability and turmoil internationally that would weaken important international structures and affect the role of the UN as a vehicle for conflict management and resolution.

"An extended conflict and a widening of the war may result in continuing presence of outside military powers in the area," it added.

Malaysia was also concerned that the war might lead to the neglect of other important issues such as the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and their oppression.

"The war must not in any way bring about the eclipse of the Palestinian issue," it said, adding that this would be a grave injustice.

The United States and the allied coalition fighting Iraq would be committing a serious injustice if they allowed Israel to marginalise the Palestinian issue while extorting military and financial aid from countries sympathetic to it, the statement said.

He said Malaysia was not pressured by anybody in its decision to support Resolution 678. Malaysia, as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council then, voted for the resolution.

"The decision was made by the government following request by some countries," he explained.

Saudi Reponse to Proposal on Holy Cities Awaited

BK2601085091 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Malaysia is waiting for Saudi Arabia's response to its proposal that the holy cities of Mecca and Medina be declared open cities in the wake of the current Gulf war. Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar says the matter has been discussed with the Saudi authorities through its embassy in Kuala Lumpur.

He was speaking to reporters after briefing members of parliament on developments in the Gulf at the Foreign Ministry. He said Malaysia was waiting for the Saudi reaction before taking the proposal to other levels. He said places declared as open cities in an area conflict would not be attacked by warring sides. He recalled that during the Second World War, Rome was declared one such city. In the context of the Malaysian proposal, Datuk Abu Hassan said Saudi Arabia would continue to exercise sovereignty over Mecca and Medina.

Minister Calls for UN Security Council Meeting

BK2801070391 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Malaysia is making efforts toward the UN Security Council to hold a meeting immediately to discuss the implementation of Resolution 678 with regard to the Gulf crisis. This is because Malaysia feels the resolution, which was supported by the country, is being misintrepreted by the United States and its allies.

The deputy minister for foreign affairs, Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan, says the Security Council should also meet to discuss the extent of damage committed by the allied forces in their efforts to seek a withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait. He told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur that Malaysia's permanent representative at the United Nations, Datuk Razali Ismail, had been directed to take appropriate action. The deputy minister said Malaysia and other nations would continue to urge the Security Council to seek a solution to the Gulf war even though several proposals by African countries were rejected.

Radio: Nation Keen on Gulf Conflict Settlement

BK2801102291 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar has urged a review of the implementation of UN Security Council resolution on Iraq. As the fighting escalates in the Gulf region, the Malaysian community is deeply concerned over the destruction and loss of lives. Malaysia's perceptions are undoubtedly shared by millions of people all over the world.

There is a general consensus that Iraq committed aggression when it invaded and occupied Kuwait. Iraq must also give up Kuwaiti territory unconditionally, think [word indistinct] for the peace of the Middle East as well as for world stability. It was these objectives that various members of the Security Council had in mind when they voted for action against Iraq. That resolution was passed after other measures under the UN Charter proved ineffective.

What Malaysia feels is that the original objectives could be easily obscured or even forgotten altogether. Action against Iraq for the sake of destroying it or for other motives cannot be condoned. The Malaysian Foreign Minister has once more stated very clearly and frankly Malaysia's consistent stand on this aspect. Invasion of one country by another is illegal as well as immoral. In that situation other countries are forced to take sides and they may be drawn deeper into the conflict.

Malaysia's request for a review of UN action is appropriate at this time. The hostilities broke out more than a week ago. In that time, there has been no ground fighting. However, the scale of destruction by bombing and missile attacks has been enormous. The world has been watching all the developments through television. It may be difficult to separate truth from propaganda but there is no doubt about the dangers of an extension of the conflict.

The forces marked against Iraq are officially described as allied forces. The legal terms are where they are by virtue of UN Security Council resolution. Because of that there is a clear obligation for the UN Secretary General to report to the Council members on the developments. The international community has a right to know what action has been taken and what results have been achieved. In all previous crises, which involve UN intervention, that practice was also followed.

Malaysia's representative at the UN will communicate with the UN Secretariat on this matter. Malaysia and its people would like to see an early end to the Gulf conflict. The effects of even of a few days' fighting will be solved for many years to come. Malaysia will lend its moral and diplomatic support towards the attainment of peace and stability.

Singapore

Thai Foreign Minister Meets With Prime Minister

BK2601142991 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Athit Urairat, who is scheduled to make a familiarization tour of all ASEAN countries following his appointment as new foreign minister, is currently on a visit to Singapore this weekend. He visited Malaysia last month.

The foreign minister this morning called on Singapore Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng. Later, he called on Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong at the Prime Minister's office.

After the meeting Athit reported that besides introducing himself to the Singapore leader, they discussed the current world situation. Thailand and Singapore shared the view that the six ASEAN countries should concentrate on development cooperation, such as in tourism and trade investment.

On the war in the Persian Gulf, the Singapore Government stressed its firm position in support of the United Nations.

Cambodia

'No Intention' of Launching Dry Season Offensive

BK2501141491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1036 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 25 (AFP)—Phnom Penh does no intention [as received] of launching military offensives during the current dry season so as not to thwart attempts to resolve the conflict, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Friday.

"Our Army is in a defensive position and we are not going to mount offensives because we consider that we are in a process of settling the conflict," Mr. Hor Namhong said.

Since the start of the 12-year war, the dry season—in the first months of the year—has often given rise to offensives against the tripartite Cambodian resistance, which is dominated by the Khmer Rouge.

The minister said the resistance had not taken a similar attitude, because it "rejects our ceasefire proposal and has recently mounted several offensives."

Apart from the Khmer Rouge, the resistance comprises the forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and those of former Premier Son Sann, all fighting the government set up in Phnom Penh after a 1978 invasion by Vietnam.

Mr. Hor Namhong said Phnom Penh is also ready to take part in the next meeting of the coordination committee of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC).

But it will refuse to dismantle its Army, he said.

He said the Phnom Penh military was the only force capable of opposing a comeback by the Khmer Rouge, which "has not abandoned its ambition of returning to power."

He welcomed the coming visit to Vietnam and Thailand of Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and of French Minister- delegate for Foreign Affairs Edwige Avice. Paris and Jakarta both co-chair the PICC.

The Khmer Rouge is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people before the Vietnamese invasion ended the radical Beijing-backed Marxist group's four-year rule.

Mr. Hor Namhong said Phnom Penh agreed to putting the groups, along with their weapons, under United Nations control, but not to disarming and demobilising its forces.

The peace plan—sponsored by the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain, France and China—calls for a major U.N. role in the peace process, particularly during a transitional period ahead of general elections.

Mr. Hor Namhong said the plan would only be acceptable if the countries involved in the PICC promised the Khmer Rouge would not return to power.

Mr. Alatas and Mrs. Avice's visit to Hanoi and Bangkok is "very important" because "all the countries directly involved in the conflict must take part in the process of resolving it," he said

Thailand and Vietnam are directly involved in the conflict, along with China, but only China is taking part in the process of resolving it, he said.

Mr. Hor Namhong also said Phnom Penh was "prepared to normalise relations with Beijing, which is directly involved in the Cambodian problem."

However, Beijing's support for the Khmer Rouge was "the main obstacle" to normalisation, which would "contribute to peace and stability in Asia, he said.

"The Cambodian people cannot understand why Beijing supports the Khmer Rouge," Mr. Hor Namhong said.

He said: "China must consider the reality of Cambodia, above all Cambodians' refusal (to allow) a return to genocide.

Mr. Hor Namhong also said Soviet military aid had ended and denied that Vietnamese troops—officially withdrawn since September 1989—were still fighting in Cambodia.

Non-governmental humanitarian organisations said recently that Vietnamese troops were in Ta Keo Province, southeast of Phnom Penh.

The minister said the situation in that province was not normal as it was a border zone, where "coming and going by police and soldiers of both countries" was inevitable.

Mr. Hor Namhong said Phnom Penh's civil cooperation with Moscow was continuing, but at a lower level, he said.

Moscow has been Phnom Penh's main arms supplier and its most important financial backer.

Hor Namhong: UN Inspection Request Postponed

BK2501161791 Hong Kong AFP in English 1547 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 25 (AFP)—The Gulf war has forced Phnom Penh to postpone a request for U.N. inspections of resistance-controlled zones on the Thai border, Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Friday. Phnom Penh will now ask the United Nations to send missions to the Cambodian-Thai border after the Gulf war ends, Mr. Hor Namhong said.

The visits were intended to show how the resistance is preparing offensives, how it runs its refugee camps and to let the United Nations "take account of the reality" of how the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea—the resistance administration—operates, he said.

Phnom Penh has always said the resistance only controls small amounts of Cambodian territory and has no significant administrative setup in those areas. A U.N.-brokered peace plan gives the world body sweeping powers to administer Cambodia until general elections are held there. Its officials have made a number of visits to Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh has rejected any dismantling of its Vietnam-installed government, saying this would pave the way for the Khmer Rouge to return to power. The tripartite resistance is dominated by the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge and also groups forces loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the troops of former Prime Minister Son Sann.

Mr. Hor Namhong also said the Gulf war would not have any effect on the Cambodian problem if morality was upheld.

Some Phnom Penh sources have said the United States may be more accommodating to Beijing over the Cambodian question in exchange for Chinese support for the U.S. policy in the Middle East.

"That question depends on those two countries, but the policy must be moral and when it concerns Cambodia moral means not trying to bring back the regime of genocide," Mr. Hor Namhong said.

The Khmer Rouge was responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people during its four-year rule.

National Assembly Schedules 20th Session 28 Jan

BK2601064891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0436 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 26—The 20th session of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, first legislature, will be opened in Phnom Penh on January 28, said a communique of the National Assembly Standing Committee.

The session will discuss and adopt the draft of the economic, social, cultural, and financial plan for 1991, and matters relating to the consolidation of national defence, political, security, and social order, and the new stage of the diplomatic struggle.

Chea Sim Chairs Opening Session

BK2801053191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] A solemn ceremony was held this morning at the National Assembly building to open the 20th ordinary session of the National Assembly, first legislature, under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the front National Council.

Attending the ceremony were the comrade party-state leaders, members of the National Assembly from all provincial and municipal constituencies throughout the country, the comrade ambassadors and charges d'affaires of friendly countries accredited to Cambodia, and many national and international observers.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim stressed that in the 12-year rebirth of our Cambodian nation and people, particularly in 1990, our own Cambodian forces have clearly displayed their mastery in carrying out national defense and construction tasks, thus rendering themselves worthy of being masters of our motherland and particularly enhancing the State of Cambodia's role in the international arena.

Comrade Chairman Chea Sim called on all National Assembly members to [words indistinct] the capabilities and qualities in governing the state, the country, and the national economy, and in ensuring the rapid improvement of the livelihood of our people throughout the country, with the aim of making this 20th National Assembly session achieve brilliant success.

Following this, members of the National Assembly also listened attentively to a report on the activities of the National Assembly in the period between the 19th and 20th sessions read by Comrade Mat Ly, vice chairman of the National Assembly; a report on the activities of the Council of State and a Council of State report on the continuation of the National Assembly's first legislature read by Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State; an explanation of the Legislative Commission read by Comrade Chem Snguon, chairman of the National Assembly Legislative Commission; an explanation of the Cultural and Social Affairs Commission read by Mrs. Som Kimsuor, vice chairman of the National Assembly Cultural and Social Affairs Commission; an explanation of the Economic, Planning, and Budgetary Commission read by Comrade Men Chhan, chairman of the National Assembly Cultural, Planning, and Budgetary Commission; and an explanation of the

Nationalities Commission read by Comrade Abdul Koyom, vice chairman of the National Assembly Nationalities Commission.

The National Assembly session adjourned temporarily at 1040 and will resume its work this afternoon.

Lao Military Delegation Arrives in Phnom Penh

BK2501100191 Vientiane KPL in English 0852 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 25 (KPL)—At the invitation of the Ministry of National Defence of the State of Cambodia, Lao military delegation led by Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason, candidate Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and first deputy minister of national defence of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, arrived in Phnom Penh Wednesday on 4-day official friendship visit here, reports SPK.

Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason and his party were welcomed by Ke Kimyan, member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and first deputy minister of national defence of the State of Cambodia, Lieutenant General Soy Keo, deputy minister of national defence, and other senior officers.

Somphong Vanitsavet, charge d'affaires a.i. of the Lao Embassy in Phnom Penh, was also on hand.

VONADK Reports Battambang Military Situation

BK2501033791 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] I. The Vietnamese enemy and puppets have plans and are carrying out military maneuvers to regain control of the liberated zones of our national resistance forces on the Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield. They have used Vietnamese infantry troops, such as the 330th and 309th Divisions, the old and new 4th Division, and the independent division; Soviet-made tanks and Soviet-made 122-mm and 130-mm multiple rockets; and various types of artillery pieces. All these Soviet weapons were recently brought in by 10,000-tonne ships for the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh puppets on 5 January 1991.

The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim are making efforts to launch large-scale operations on the Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield with the aim of scoring military results for their propaganda to show that they are in full control in Cambodia and that there is no need for the UN Security Council [UNSC] peace plan and the Jakarta statement setting up the Supreme National Council, and in particular to get the world to accept as a fait accompli the act of aggression of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy and its puppet regime propped up in Phnom Penh.

Furthermore, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys, have launched operations on the Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield in order to:

1. Counter the activities of the UNSC and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the world's activities to get the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim to accept the UN peace plan, and

2. Take advantage of the war in the Middle East to score some sort of military results, reasoning that no one will think of the Cambodian problem anymore, and to use this to silence others diplomatically.

II. In fighting during the past two weeks, particularly from 20 to 23 January, here are the results of our national resistance forces' activities:

On the Route 10 front:

1. In front of and on both sides of Route 10 we destroyed 22 large, medium, and small positions of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets, including two regimental positions on the hill defending Sdau. Since 21 January we have been in control of high points adjoining Route 10, particularly adjoining Sdau, O Andong, and Treng. The forward command post of the 5th Military Region of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets located in Sdau and the command of the 330th Division of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets, and the old and new 4th Division in Sdau, O Andong, and Treng are now below us and within range of our mortars and handguns.

2. We killed 260 enemy soldiers and wounded 400 others from Vietnam's 330th, 309th, and the old and new 4th Divisions, from the puppets troops in the 196th and 4th Divisions, and from the provincial forces of Battambang and Kandal. Hundreds of others have deserted. Many regiments in each division, particularly in the provincial forces, have been completely destroyed and smashed.

3. We destroyed over 80 percent of positions and warehouses of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets in Sdau, O Andong, Treng, Boeng (O Ta Lou), and (Peng Ang).

4. We destroyed six T-54 tanks, 12 large military trucks, two 122-mm artillery pieces, and a battery of 122-mm and a battery of 130-mm multiple rockets.

5. We are constantly attacking and dispersing the positions of the Vietnamese enemy at Phnum Sampeou and from Phnum Sampeou to Andong Pring. This has caused great panic among the Vietnamese enemy and puppets along Route 10 and at Phnum Sampeou, Andong Pring, and Battambang.

III. Here are the results for the southern part of the Sangke River front:

1. We destroyed positions of the 95th Brigade of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets on the top of Taphde Hill; a small number of remaining troops fled to set up positions along Route 5.

2. The positions at Svay Teap and Reang Kesei along the railway line have also been basically swept and destroyed.

3. The positions at Prey Svay and Prey Totoeng west of Reang Kesei have also basically been destroyed.

4. We basically destroyed the command post of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets and the Battambang provincial forces at Banan. Vietnamese and puppet officers at this position retreated to Bay Damram and Chheuteal. Along the Sangke River, from Roung to (Kanghep) and from (Kanghep) to (Kompong) up to Banan, we have basically swept and destroyed positions of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets. Our national resistance forces continue to attack and put pressure on enemy positions at Bay Damram and Chheuteal.

IV. The military activities on the Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield between the Vietnamese enemy and puppets on the one hand and the national resistance forces on the other have resulted in the following political reactions:

1. The people in Battambang Province, particularly in Battambang town, have clearly seen the face of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets who oppose the UN framework document and peace plan and persist in committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia. Thus the people in Battambang are very angry, have cursed the Vietnamese enemy and the Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim puppets, and have actively cooperated with us by calling back their relatives and children, who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy and puppet leaders in villages and communes and on battlefields.

Thus, while the national resistance forces are smashing the major regular troops of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, the people have expressed great joy and written to the national resistance forces to launch more vigorous attacks from outside and into Battambang town so the people in the town and on its outskirts can prepare to fight the Vietnamese enemy and puppets when the national resistance forces attack the provincial town.

2. Militiamen, guerrillas, and various civil servants in Battambang town—who have been forced into service by the Vietnamese enemy and puppet leaders—have also expressed joy at the activities of the national resistance forces to smash and destroy large groups of troops among the regular divisions of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets. They are now waiting for the time when the national resistance forces' attacks reach Battambang town's outskirts to rise up and decisively fight the Vietnamese enemy and puppets militarily, politically, and economically in Battambang town.

3. Cambodian soldiers, particularly those from the Battambang and Kandal provincial forces, district forces, and especially those soldiers who speak Thai, took advantage of the attacks by the national resistance forces against the Vietnamese enemy and puppets and deserted.

4. The reaction of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets on the Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield in the 5th Military Region is one of great confusion and panic. They do not know what to do. The Vietnamese enemy and puppets no longer use secret telegraphic communication channels. They are in a hurry and have in a panic used only radio communications to ask for assistance. The people in and outside Battambang town, Cambodian soldiers, and civil servants—except a handful of Vietnamese officers—are praying for the death of the black-toothed Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, who are puppets and Vietnam's out-and-out lackeys. The black-toothed Hanoi Vietnamese and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim should fully accept the UN document and peace plan.

VONADK: Vietnamese Forces on Route 10 Front

BK2801034591 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Special report from Battambang-Route 10-Sangke River battlefield]

[Text] 1. After our national resistance forces attacked and inflicted heavy losses on the Vietnamese enemies on 21, 22, and 23 January 1991 in particular, destroying a large number of their personnel, positions, warehouses, artillery pieces, and tanks, the Vietnamese enemies no longer have the Vietnamese-faced Cambodian forces to use for resisting us on the Route 10 battlefield. Thus, they have sent their Vietnamese forces to intervene in an attempt to rescue their colleagues along Route 10. These Vietnamese forces were sent from Battambang to Phnum Sampeou, from Phnum Sampeou to Snoeng, and from Snoeng to Sdau. They dared not come by Route 10 which is on the perimeter of our infantry and in range of artillery attack.

2. On 24 January, fighting between our national resistance forces and these Vietnamese intervention forces went on all day. We destroyed six Soviet-made T-54 tanks in the lower part of Route 10 from Snoeng to Boeng Ampil. We smashed dozens of their personnel.

3. On 25 and 26 January, there was tense fighting between our national resistance forces and the Vietnamese forces east of Route 10 from Snoeng to Sdau. We set ablaze five T-54 tanks of the Vietnamese enemies, destroyed seven large trucks made in the Soviet Union, and smashed dozens of Vietnamese personnel. From 24 to 26 January, the Vietnamese enemies have had no Cambodians for translating orders to the battlefield. They used the Vietnamese language to contact each

other. This clearly shows that the Cambodian soldiers who were forced to serve the Vietnamese aggressors and the puppet ringleaders have been routed organizationally and morally. Therefore, the Vietnamese forces have to launch their intervention on Route 10 by themselves. They have turned to speaking Vietnamese openly because they are at a total impasse.

Battambang Town in 'Great Chaos and Danger'

BK2701035891 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Jan 91

["Report from Battambang town: The Town Is in Great Chaos and Danger"]

[Text] Battambang town is currently in great chaos and danger. The race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their cruel lackeys—followers of traitorous Vietnamese lackeys Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim—are in confusion and agony day and night, because they are afraid of a joint attack to be launched soon by the national resistance forces and people to liberate the town. Blasts of gunfire can be heard from somewhere very close to Battambang town, and artillery shells fired by the national resistance forces have more frequently fallen on the positions of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in the town. The Vietnamese and Cambodian soldiers there are disorderly, defying orders from their commanders, looting, and firing impudently. People, Cambodian soldiers, and militiamen continue to flee from the town everyday. And rumors circulating among the town residents say that explosions of grenades are heard daily and shortages of rice are serious. Rice is more expensive than gold, and other commodities also become dearer. A small sum of the puppet money can in no way buy anything at all.

Now we hear that resistance agents are operating everywhere in Battambang Town. Therefore, the fathers, mothers, and compatriot Cambodian soldiers, militiamen, and officials at all levels—forced by the race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnamese lackey puppet leaders Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim to fight and die in their place—should hurriedly move out from Battambang Town and go back to their home villages outside the town on time. And the people should go and return their children, husbands, and relatives from the town to their own villages.

Sihanouk Condemns SRV Insistence on 'Status Quo'

BK2501075191 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jan 91

["Samdech Norodom Sihanouk Denounces the Phnom Penh Puppets for Rejecting the UN Plan To Disarm Their Troops"]

[Text] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia and leader of the Cambodian national resistance forces, on 23 January 1991 published an article denouncing puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys, who have refused to let the United Nations disarm their troops and on the contrary propose a cease-fire while maintaining the status quo. The samdech's article says:

The troops of Heng Samrin, Hun Sen, and Chea Sim have hidden many weapons and ammunition. The United Nations cannot find or destroy these arms caches because they are in many secret parts of Cambodia, particularly in the jungles and mountains of the provinces adjoining the Lao-Vietnamese border. The puppet communist troops and Vietnamese troops have shelters and warehouses in Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, Kratie, Mondolkiri, Ratanakiri, Kampot, and Takeo Provinces, and so on. No one can get to these places, and Vietnam can still provide, and has the intention of continuing to provide, weapons to the Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim clique.

Concerning the disarming of troops on all Cambodian sides by the United Nations, one can rely on Thailand to really stop the transport of weapons, ammunition, and war materiel into Cambodia. But the Red Vietnamese, who have refused since the 1940's to give up their strategy to annex Cambodia, will continue to violate international agreements and maintain bases, shelters, secret units, and agents and so on, in Cambodia. This is what Vietnam's lackeys in Phnom Penh are trying to conceal from the United Nations and the international community.

On the cease-fire issue, the samdech points out that:

On the one hand, there is a solution, the best, for a cease-fire, which is to gather troops and put them in garrisons and disarm all Cambodian troops; and on the other, there is the solution proposed by Phnom Penh—that is, a cease-fire with the status quo maintained. There is no diasarmament in this latter solution.

People can clearly see that a solution through maintaining the status quo only benefits the Vietnamese colonialists and their servants. In particular, this kind of solution is like dividing up Cambodia. The world realizes that dividing a country is vitally dangerous for that country, especially for Cambodia which has Vietnam as a neighbor. A cease-fire with the status quo maintained means that in zones not yet liberated the Hun Sen group and its Vietnamese masters will continue to quietly maintain the situation in which Vietnam has altered Cambodia's land and sea borders. This would benefit Vietnam, which would then continue to plunder natural resources, property, and antiquities in Cambodia and change the demographic composition in Cambodia by sending Vietnamese nationals to Cambodia and plundering Cambodian land for these settlers. Vietnam would also continue the Vietnamization policy through every means in zones not yet liberated; in other words, this is changing these zones into a second Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory now part of southern Vietnam].

In conclusion, the samdech pointed out that the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general should be fully implemented and unaltered. If this plan is altered or not fully implemented, there will not be genuine and long-lasting peace for the Cambodian people. The vital issue for our Cambodia is the division of the country in the period in which Vietnam transformed zones controlled by puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim into a second Kampuchea Kraom.

Indonesia

Foreign Minister Emphasizes Role in Gulf War

BK2801094391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0828 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Bandung (West Java), 28 Jan, (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia is not merely a spectator in the ongoing Gulf war as it has and it will continue to play a role in the efforts to settle it, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said here Monday.

After opening an international workshop on disarmament he said: Our stance is clear. If the U.N. Security Council asks us to send our troops to the Middle East, we will be ready to do so.

Moreover, Indonesia has also turned out many statements concerning the Gulf crisis and held various talks with non-Security Council members to find an option to it, he said.

However, all those efforts may not be "very transparent" as Indonesia is not a U.N. Security Council member. The minister explained adding that the fact that the country was not the council's member had made it look like it was not very busy in the efforts to settle the conflict.

On reports that four Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) members are to hold a conference in Belgrade to end the Gulf war, he said: No confirmation on it received by Indonesia yet.

After all, it will not be easy to lull all troops out from the Gulf region now as many developing countries are involved in the conflict, he said adding that many of the countries were members of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

He also said that everybody knew that the organizations still [words indistinct] various frictions among its members, [passage indistinct], for example, always found difficulties in organizing a summit.

Minister Warns Against Provocation by War

BK2601154591 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Politics and Security Minister Sudomo has asked the people not to be provoked by the Gulf war. Speaking to newsmen in Medan today, Minister Sudomo said that the Gulf war was not only a physical conflict but also a psychological war between the warring parties. Sudomo also hoped that the Gulf war would not cause divisions and undermine unity and cohesiveness, which would in turn cause losses or upheavals here even though Indonesia was not involved in it. If the people intend to express their views on the Gulf war, the most correct way will be for them to write letters to the embassies of the countries concerned.

Minister Discourages Muslims' Influence by War

BK2501133891 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] The government has urged the Indonesian Muslim community not to be easily influenced by issues related to the ongoing Persian Gulf war. The Gulf war is a war among the Arabs themselves as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Speaking when meeting with religious officials of Mataram religious department and community leaders, Religious Minister Munawir Syadzali said Iraqi troops are fighting the allied forces which also consist of troops from Arab nations such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Morocco, and Syria.

Touching on this year's 13-percent increase in Haj pilgrimage fares, the minister stressed that such an increase is not aimed at making profits but due to, among other things, the 18-percent increase in air fares and other services which have simultaneously increased in Saudi Arabia.

Islamic Group Agrees on Statement on Gulf War

BK2601091091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0648 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 26 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Indonesian Council of Ulemas (MUI) will next Tuesday issue a statement calling on the involved parties in the Gulf war to seek a peaceful solution and on the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to hold a summit meeting, it was disclosed here Saturday.

K.H. Hasan Basri, general chairman of MUI, told newsmen here that recent meeting of prominent ulemas grouping in the council agreed to issue such a statement marking the Indonesian ulemas' deep concern over the heightening of war in the Gulf, which had also claimed many lives.

The OIC groups 43 countries with Moslems as the majority of their population including Iraq and a number of Arab countries affiliated to the US-led multinational forces.

However, Basri did not explain whether the OIC would be able to put the Gulf war into an end since its members were also directly involved in the war.

Meanwhile, chairman of the social Islamic organization Nahdlatul Ulema (NU) Khalid Mawardi said that a call for an OIC summit would be hard to be realized due to various factors, including security. In addition, if the summit will discuss Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, he would be pesimistic and afraid that as such a meeting would bear no result as it had become an old and unsettled issue.

According to Mawardi, the most possible move is that such a summit should immediately seek a ceasefire among the warring parties. In this connection, he reiterated a recent call by the NU to the warring parties in the Gulf for a ceasefire, to be followed by a talks between the parties involved in the Gulf war under the auspices of the United Nations.

At the time of a ceasefire, he went on, forces of the the two sides should be withdrawn to certain locations and the UN peace forces derived from Islamic countries should be deployed in the no- man lands.

The last step in the process, he said, is the withdrawal of all foreign troops, including the US-led multinational forces, from the Middle East.

Mawardi also emphasized that it was a good momentum for Indonesia to take an initiative towards a ceasefire in the Gulf war. He said that Indonesia had a good reputation among the Middle Eastern countries, therefore it is possible for Indonesia to play its role to help solve the Gulf crisis.

K.H. Hasan Basri in this regard said that the peace call made by the MUI was mainly aimed at stopping the war immediately.

The war in the Gulf is damaging the Moslems who have been the victims in this tragedy. The war is also detrimental to human beings and the atmosphere, he insisted.

According to Hasan Basri, the MUI's peace call is also directed to the UN Security Council. He said the UN Security Council had to take an initiative to immediately put the war into an end.

Minister Tells Businesses To 'Remain Calm'

BK2701054891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0417 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 27, (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian businesses have been called on to remain calm and take correct steps in facing possible negative impacts of the Gulf war.

Minister of Industry Hartarto, when opening the "visit and Indon-Expo 1991" here Saturday, also called on businessmen to cooperate with the government in coping with such a negative impact.

Industrial businesses need to take necessary steps such as securing raw materials stocks which are still imported.

He suggested that businessmen—in the wake of the possible impact—should use domestic products.

The quality of domestic products—whose price are now competitive—has been more and more improved.

In the face the Gulf problem, the minister also recommended that enterpreneurs should cleverly make use of the domestic market and work hard to increase the export of non oil/gas commodities.

Hard efforts to increase non oil/gas exports are important considering that importers still place a high demand for a number of Indonesian commodities despite a world economic recession.

In the mean time, the minister added, businesses need to study and seek a way out of non-tradiational makret for commodities facing low demand on the world market.

The government supports efforts to increase exports to non- traditional markets such as the People's Republic of China, East Europe and Vietnam through a counter-purchase system, he said.

The minister explained that the Indonesian industrial exports in January-September 1990 were recorded at [words indistinct] billion U.S. dollars.

The markets of these exports are Asia-Pacific (57.11 percent), European Economic Community (EEC) (19.37 percent), the Middle East (6.32 percent), China (4.32 percent), East Europe (0.37 percent) and other countries (12.37 percent).

Regarding the market in the Middle East, all sides need to take security steps, he stressed.

"It is clear that Indonesia still has wide opportunities to penetrate the world market, particularly East Europe, China, Asia- Pacific and EEC," he added. Minister Hartarto explained that the volumes of Indonesian goods in these markets are still small while these goods are more competitive compared with those of other countries.

The minister also called on businessmen to continue increasing their investment and making use of second phase industrial relocation opportunities of the advanced nations.

"Those who make bold investment during a recession period will always enjoy the benefit," Hartarto said.

The participation of regional government in the visit and Indon-Expo 1991 is expected to help increase the country's exports.

"Jambi Province is expected to help increase the country's exports and contribute to the state's foreign exchange revenues," head of Jambi's industry office Jamil Usman said.

Economic Impact of Gulf War Analyzed

BK2801043591 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] A number of cabinet ministers in charge of economic affairs last week voiced their concern over the impact of the Gulf war which the country has begun to feel. Speaking at a parliamentary hearing on Friday [25 January], Finance Minister Sumarlin said there was no guarantee that the price of Indonesian oil would not go below the benchmark price used to formulate the 1991-92 national budget, namely $19 per barrel. The 1991-92 national budget is based on projections made before the outbreak of the Gulf crisis, which has made oil price fluctuate unpredictably.

Speaking on a separate occasion, Industries Minister Hartarto warned that the country must be ready to face a global economic recession brought on by the Gulf war as well as the recent slowdown in the economic growth of industrialized countries.

Meanwhile, Junior Minister of Trade Sudrajat Jiwandono admitted that the Gulf war had affected Indonesia's trade relations with countries in the Middle East in the form of disrupting commodity flows to and from that region. In fact, the region constitutes a sizeable market for Indonesia's goods with an annual trade volume of more than $500 million.

As far as tourism is concerned, there are reports that many tourists from the Middle East, Europe, and the United States have cancelled their trips to Indonesia. However, Susilo Sudarman, minister of tourism, posts, and telecommunications, expressed optimism that the country will achieve the targeted number of tourist arrivals in 1991. Nevertheless, the cancellation will more or less reduce our foreign currency revenues from our tourism sector.

The several examples cited above show that we are beginning to feel the impact of the Gulf war. All of us can only hope that the Gulf war will end soon and be settled at the negotiating table because a prolonged war will affect all countries, especially through a possible global economic recession. In addition, the prospect of more casualties among innocent people will be an invaluable loss.

Even though we still have high hopes that the war will end soon, it is necessary for us to take concrete steps to minimalize the worst impact of the war. The problem must be solved through extra hard work, especially in coping with oil price fluctuations, a possible global economic recession, disruptions in trade links with Middle East trade partners, and a decline in the arrivals of tourists from several regions. For this reason, all of us, namely the government, business circles, and all members of the public must have the determination and unity so as to ensure the successful implementation of the 1991-92 national budget for all the people.

Dailies Comment on Impact

BK2601093091 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 26 Jan 91

[From the press review]

[Text] KOMPAS underlines remarks made by several cabinet ministers who have warned against the negative impact of the Gulf war on the Indonesian economy. While Minister of Tourism, Posts and Telecommunications Susilo Sudarman spoke on its potential impact on the 1991 Visit Indonesia Year, the industries minister spoke on its impact on national industries, and the junior minister of trade spoke on its impact on the country's international trade.

This daily notes that amid the anxiety of declining national exports, some economists stress the need to stimulate domestic markets as part of the efforts to keep the national economy stable. For that reason, a new government policy is required in the form of a deregulation policy, which will enable the economy to survive and create new investment and job opportunities.

Meanwhile, SUARA KARYA links the current Gulf war with the 1991-92 national budget and quotes Finance Minister Sumarlin as saying that a prolonged Gulf war will affect oil price as well as force the government to increase domestic oil prices. Financial assistance from foreign countries will also be reduced. In response to such problems, SUARA KARYA believes that it is necessary to review the 1991-92 national budget and prepare to face the worst scenario.

Minister Says Economy Not Dependent on Oil Price

BK2601090691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0512 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 26 (OANA-ANTARA)—The growth of Indonesian economy in the coming fiscal year does not solely depend on the price of oil which many say will likely to fluctuate following the outbreak of war in the Gulf, Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said here Friday evening.

During an economic dialogue, one of the regular broadcasting programs of RCTI, a Jakarta-based private television station, the minister further said, when the Gulf war broke out everybody was [words indistinct]. Thus Indonesia would very probably be able to enjoy oil price more or less similar to the one "predicted" in the draft state budget for the 1991/92 fiscal year, he said.

Indonesia, with a production capacity of around 1.6 million bpd [barrel per day], in the formulation of its draft state budget for the coming fiscal year used the standard oil price of 19 US dollar per barrel.

He also said: It was true that the country's economic growth largely influenced by its ability to boost its non-oil/gas exports but just because the possibility of soaring oil price had been ruled out, it did not mean the export of such commodities would automatically grow without obstacles.

The Gulf war, has narrowed the overseas market of Indonesian commodity and increase the insurance, transportation as well as purchasing of raw material costs, Minister Ginanjar said. The best way to overcome them is still increasing the competitiveness of the export commodities, especially in the fields of price, quality and service, he added.

Meanwhile, prominent businessman Sofyan Wanandi, when commenting on Minister Ginanjar's statement, said that he could not be too optimistic about the non-oil/gas export growth following the raid of the US-led multinational forces over Iraq to force the country to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Competitiveness might still be the best way to boost such exports, but Indonesian businesmen are now facing the problem of unsound cost structure due the large amount of import content —especially for raw materials—in their efforts to produce export products, Wanandi said. Moreover, they must deal with the high interest rate as well as limited infrastructure, he said.

Wanandi also called on the government to set up a some kind of a special team to which businessmen could ask for guidance and information in handling, for example, electricity scarcity.

In response to it, Minister Ginanjar said: The government is not sleeping, and works of coordination—although not in spectacular way—have been carried out among some institutions.

For example, he said, the state oil company Pertamina and the state electricity company have worked in coordination to ensure that the power generating sets imported by large factories to meet their increasing demand for electricity would receive sufficient diesel fuel supply.

Laos

Assembly Delegation in Beijing Meets Chen Muhua

BK2601124791 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] The delegation of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] led by Assembly Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan arrived in Beijing on the afternoon of 24 January. The Lao delegation was welcomed upon its arrival at the airport by Mrs. Chen Muhua, vice chairwoman of the National People's Congress [NPC] Standing Committee, and (?Zhou Jie), deputy secretary general of the NPC Standing Committee, along with other Chinese leaders.

The Lao SPA delegation is currently visiting China at the invitation of the Chinese NPC Standing Committee. Before coming to Beijing, the Lao delegation visited Kunming, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen.

On the evening of the same day, Mrs. Chen Muhua, vice chairwoman of the NPC Standing Committee, met with the Lao SPA delegation at the People's Hall in Beijing. On this occasion, Mrs. Chen Muhua and Wan Li, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, again welcomed the Lao delegation's visit to China. They said: China and Laos are neighboring countries linked by mountain ranges and waterways along the common border. We are very pleased with the first visit of the Lao SPA delegation to China and are convinced that following this visit, the friendship and cooperation between the assemblies and the peoples of the two countries will be further developed.

Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed his great pleasure over his visit to China on this occasion. He said: We have visited Kunming, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou, and today we have arrived in Beijing. I see that the welcome extended to us by the Chinese side is very sincere and warm. I am very satisfied with the results of my meeting and talks with Wan Li, where both sides have reached a unanimity on all issues.

After the meeting, Mrs. Chen Muhua held a banquet in honor of the Lao SPA delegation. The banquet proceeded in a warm atmosphere. Phongsavat Boupha, Lao ambassador to China, and his wife also attended the meeting and the banquet.

Group Meets With Li Peng

BK2701123491 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] PRC Premier Li Peng received the delegation of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly led by Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan in Beijing on 25 January. During the meeting, Li Peng recalled his recent visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and, once again, expressed his gratitude to the Lao Government and people for the warm reception accorded to him during the visit and his pleasure for having received Nouhak Phoumsavan. Noting that the visit was a success, he said his visit to Laos has enabled him to learn more about the situation in the neighboring country and to get acquainted with the Lao party and Government leaders.

Li Peng informed the Lao delegation about the objectives of the seventh plenary session of the 13th CPC Central Committee.

Nouhak Phoumsavan said that the Lao party and people highly appraised Li Peng's visit to Laos and regarded that the visit plays an important role in promoting friendly relations between Laos and China. He added: For 18 years he had not visited China. He was extremely pleased with this visit and deeply impressed by the successes accomplished by China in economic development, in particular the tremendous changes in the rural areas. He has learned lessons from every place he visited on the implementation of the reform and open-door policy. He also informed the PRC premier about the internal situation in Laos and conveyed regards from the Lao party and state leaders to the Chinese party and state leaders.

Beijing Radio reported that on the same day, the Lao delegation visited a dairy farm, vegetable plantation, and a kindergarten at (Tonfutin) Canton on the outskirts of Beijing.

On the evening of 25 January, Nouhak Phoumsavan and his delegation went to see an arts performance in Beijing.

Mrs. Chen Muhau, vice chairwoman of the of the National People's Congress [NPC] Standing Committee, held talks with Nouhak Phoumsavan in Beijing on 25 January. During the meeting, Mrs. Chen Muhua explained to the Lao delegation the organizational structure, roles, duties, and responsibilities of the NPC and its standing committee, the implementation of the reform and open-door policy, and economic development in China.

After conveying regards from the Lao leaders to the Chinese counterparts, Nouhak Phoumsavan said that his visit will further strengthen the traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries. He also informed the Chinese side about the overall achievements accomplished from the economic and political restructuring in Laos during the past five years.

On 22 January, Nouhak Phoumsavan met with Wan Li, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. The two exchanged views on the internal situation in their respective countries. Nouhak Phoumsavan informed Wan Li about the progress of the restructuring in Laos while the latter briefed him about the lessons the PRC has learned from economic development in line with the reform and open-door policy.

Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed his satisfaction with what he has seen and learned during the visit to the PRC and praised the great successes accomplished by the Chinese people in economic development which, he stressed, can be attributed to the correct policy of the PRC.

The two expressed their satisfaction over the ever growing friendly relations between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries, especially following the visit to the PRC of General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan in October 1989 and the visit of Premier Li Peng to the LPDR in December 1990. They noted that relations and cooperation in different fields between the two countries are expanding fruitfully, thus bolstering the long-time friendly relations between the two nations.

Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed gratitude to the Chinese party, government, and people for the support and assistance rendered to the Lao party, government, and people in the past and at present. They expressed their concern over the war situation in the Persian Gulf and their desire to see the war end quickly. They also jointly called for the respect for the five principles of peaceful coexistence in international relations.

Nouhak Phoumsavan invited Wan Li to visit the LPDR at an appropriate date. Wan Li accepted the invitation with pleasure. The date of the visit will be worked out through diplomatic channels.

After the meeting, Wan Li hosted a reception in honor of Nouhak Phoumsavan. The reception, as well as the meeting, proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality.

Returns Home 27 Jan

BK2801113391 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 28 (KPL)—President Nouhak Phoumsavan of the People's Supreme Assembly [PSA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and his party yesterday arrived home ending a week-long visit to the People's Republic of China.

Welcoming the delegation at the airport were among Politburo members Khamtai Siphandon, minister of national defence, and Phoun Sipaseuth, minister for foreign affairs, Vice President of the PSA Thongsing Thammavong and other members of the PSA Standing Committee.

Ambassador of the PRC to Laos Liang Feng was also on hand.

Second Day of Mourning for Sali Vongkhamsao

BK2601103891 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 26 (KPL)—Representatives of various ministries, institutions and services in the capital yesterday, the second day of mourning, laid wreaths to pay tribute to the late Vice-CM [Council of Ministers] Chairman Sali Vongkhamsao, who passed away on January 23 in Vientiane.

The mourning will last till January 28.

Foreign Officials Pay Tribute

BK2701132191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Foreign diplomats and representatives of international organizations to Laos today separately laid wreaths to pay tribute to the late Comrade Sali Vongkhamsao—member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; minister of economy, planning, and finance; and member of the second Supreme People's Assembly—who passed away at age 66 on the evening of 23 January in Vientiane.

Ambassadors, charge d'affaires, and representatives of international organizations who came to lay wreaths today were from the Soviet Union, the PRC, the FRG, Australia, the Republic of Bulgaria, the DPRK, the Republic of Cuba, the United States, France, the Republic of India, the Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Union of Myanmar [Burma], the state of Palestine, the Republic of Poland, the Czech and Slovak Federative

Republic, Thailand, the United Nations Development Program, the Mother and Child Organization [as heard], the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the WHO. Also coming to pay their last tribute to the late Sali Vongkhamsao today were Vietnamese experts and representatives of the Chinese Association in Laos.

Business people, representatives of private firms, and delegations of the SRV, the State of Cambodia, and Thailand are scheduled to lay wreaths to pay respect to the late Comrade Sali Vongkhamsao on 27 January.

Thailand, France, U.S., China Top Investors

BK1101103591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Jan 91 p B3

[Text] Thai companies were the biggest investor in Laos with 40 projects from 1988 to Nov 1990, the Board of Trade reported.

France, the U.S. and China were the next three biggest investing nations in Laos with 11, nine and eight projects respectively, followed by Australia five and the Soviet Union, Canada, Taiwan and England at four apiece.

During this period, the Laotian government had approved 104 foreign investments or joint ventures with the total investment sum of US$233.6 million.

Twenty-four of the projects were export and import, 14 manufacturing and handicraft, 12 garment manufacturing for export, 10 consultants and nine hotels.

Others included eight wood processing and manufacturing of rattan projects, seven in mineral ore and oil exploration, six in agriculture, four in construction, maintenance and transport, one in banking and one in aviation.

Philippines

Non-Iraqi Foreign Terrorists Reported in Country

HK2801052991 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Luis Santos, acting Department of Interior and Local Government [DILG] secretary, confirmed that along with Iraqi terrorists there are other foreign nationals sympathetic to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn who are in the Philippines to carry out terroristic activities. Santos did not identify the terrorist group but said that the DILG and the newly established Philippine National Police have contingency plans to prevent them from creating trouble. He added that his department is sufficiently coordinating with the military and other government agencies to suppress terrorism. Meanwhile, the DILG is seriously studying how to maintain peace nationwide even as the Gulf war continues.

Japanese Terrorists Enter Country

HK2501122191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] A group of Japanese terrorists has entered the country. Their aim is to carry out extensive terrorist attacks as they sympathize with Iraq against the U.S.-led multinational forces. The authorities have also disclosed that the group of Japanese nationals, who are linked to the Japanese Red Army, immediately joined the local Iraqi militant group in order to intensify their terrorist activities. Commissioner Andrea Domingo of the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation received and confiremd this intelligence report.

Two Suspected Iraqi Terrorists Deported

OW2601101591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0947 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Manila, Jan. 26 KYODO—Philippine immigration authorities on Saturday deported two Iraqis allegedly linked to a bombing attempt on a U.S.-run library in Manila last week.

Immigration Bureau spokesman Sarah Andes said the brothers Hisham, 25, and Husham Hikmat Abdul-Sattar, 26, left the country aboard a Malaysian Airlines jet bound for Kuala Lumpur where they will stay for several hours for a connecting flight to Tehran.

Andes said the two students will be joined on their flight to Tehran by Muwafak al-'Ani, the former consul-general of the Iraqi Embassy here, who was deported Tuesday for his alleged part in the failed bombing of the Thomas Jefferson Library in the financial district of Makati.

The premature explosion on January 19 of a powerful bomb intended for the U.S. library killed an Iraqi national and injured another Iraqi who is still confined in a military hospital.

The incident prompted the government to put in place security measures to protect foreign nationals, embassies, and offices of international organizations throughout the country.

The Sattar brothers, whose father is an Iraqi diplomat posted in Somalia, have denied any role in the bombing.

"I want to stay here to clear my name and to be able to continue my studies," the elder Sattar told reporters Tuesday.

Embassy's Response on Envoy's Expulsion Praised

HK2501112591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus welcomes the Iraqi Embassy's response to the Philippine Government's request to expel Iraqi Consul General Muwafak al-'Ani. Arlene Andes has the details:

[Begin recording] Manglapus said this shows a good relationship between the two countries. He added that the Iraqi Embassy's cooperation means continued diplomatic ties between Iraq and the Philippines. The Department of Foreign Affairs extended the necessary assistance to Mr. Muwafak al-'Ali, that is, airport courtesies as stipulated in the Vienna convention provision governing diplomatic relations. Mr. Manglapus hopes that all concerned authorities should be aware that the Philippine Government is serious and determined to protect its citizens as well as to defend the national interest against law violators. [end recording]

Legaspi City Radio Station Bombed

HK2801091591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] A radio station in the Bicol region was bombed this morning, allegedly due to worsening political conflict in the region. A bomb was hurled into the FBN, DZRC, and DWRC building in Legaspi City at about 0120 [1720 GMT 27 January] damaging the building's social hall and shattering glass windows in the station's record library. According to a report by FBN's Jun Alegre, the light bulbs inside the station manager's room were also broken and the explosion made a deep hole outside the social hall. A driver named Ding Arias was slightly injured. Here is the report by Jun Alegre of DZRC, Legaspi City:

[Begin recording] This feud has been going on for a long time. Several attempts have been made to bribe DZRC so that politicians could control it but we adhered to our principles as broadcasters. We continue to assail people in relation to illegal activities here in the province of Albay, especially in Legaspi City. This not only involves politicians but also personalities who have been affected by our criticism. With God's help, we were able to go on the air for our usual broadcasts today. Our transmitter was not damaged but our driver was hurt and a deep hole was left in the area where the explosion occurred. We don't know what type of bomb was used but we suspect it was something unusual because it was so powerful. Even the other parts of the stations' compound sustained some damage. [end recording]

It will be recalled that in September 1988, gasoline was poured on the DZRC and DWRC's garage in an attempt to burn the station. No one has been arrested for the incidents.

Secretary Cites Terrorist Link

HK2801101991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Interview with Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos by Restie de Quiros of DZRH Mobile Unit 8—live from Camp Crame]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [De Quiros] Mr. Secretary, this morning a radio station was bombed in Legaspi City. Was this related to what we consider as possible terrorist activities carried out by Saddam Husayn sympathizers?

[Santos] It appears so because the phrase Long Live Saddam was written on a communist flag that was there. So, it seems there is a connection. But there was no serious damage. And I think it is pranksters or the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]. [preceding sentence in English]

Ramos Says Gulf Military Aid Needs Approval

HK2501110191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said any military assistance requested by the United States and its coalition forces from the Philippine Government will have to be approved by the Lower House.

Ramos made this clarification in a weekly news conference held at Camp Aguinaldo. To date, a total of 200 medical teams have been sent to the Middle East, he said. Ramos added that by virtue of an executive order issued by President Aquino, the Philippines cannot send military reinforcement without the prior approval of congress.

As of now, however, no assistance has been requested from the Philippines. According to Ramos, the Philippines cannot send anything but Tora-Tora airplanes which he doubts are reliable.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] Any participation of the Philippines in the Middle East beyond what we have already sent, this is the 200-man or -woman medical unit, must be authorized by congress, the same way that congress had to enact a law when we sent AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] contingents to Korea upon the request of the United Nations and to Vietnam on the request of the Republic of South Vietnam. All of these must be authorized by congress. [end recording]

Gulf Cease-Fire Resolution Approved by Congress

HK2601090791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] The house committee on rules approved Resolution No. 2114 calling for international peace and an immediate cease-fire in the Middle East war. According to Francisco Sumulong, the majority floor leader and Rules Committee chairman, the resolution which was principally authored by representatives Raul Roco, Tessie Aquino Oreta, and Miguel Romero, strengthens the principle of collective security, the basis of consensus in the United Nations.

Among the features stated in the resolution are: the reiteration of support for the multinational forces and the United States; the commendation of Israelies for exercising restraints in spite of the continuing attacks of Iraq; the persuasion of other nations to fight terrorism and unite for the attainment of international peace.

Security Director on Troop Deployment to Gulf

HK2801092791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[By Cesar Chavez]

[Text] National Security Director Rafael Ileto urged the government to study a possible United Nation's request for the Philippines to send a military force to the Middle East as part of a peacekeeping force. During his appearance before the Senate Committee on National Defense, Ileto said the serious crisis brought about by the Gulf war is just beginning. He hinted that the Philippines can help the United Nations if it sends an engineering brigade to the Gulf after the war.

Also in the Senate Defense Committee hearing, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos opposed the proposal that the country should send a military force to the Gulf. Ramos said the government should only send civilians and noncombatants to the Gulf because there is an internal security threat for which the presence of the Armed Forces is needed.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] I think we should avoid getting involved in the combat operations in the Middle East. [end recording]

Former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile also opposed the proposal to send military troops to the Gulf. In an interview, Enrile said the people endorsing this idea should be the ones sent to the Gulf:

[Begin Enrile recording in English] Why should we? First of all, why should we expose any of our countrymen to a military confrontation there. Second, we have already sent a medical contingent. Third, we are too poor to support a program like that. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Secretaries Ileto and Ramos were united in saying that the Gulf war is bound to last a long time and gave the assessment that the world crisis may worsen. Ramos said the people should not trust that the Gulf situation is normal even if the multinational force weaponry is sophisticated.

For his part, Labor Secretary Ruben Torres said government labor attaches are negotiating with Middle East countries to grant hazard pay to Filipino workers there. Torres assured that the lives of the Filipino workers in Saudi Arabia, particularly those in the eastern province, will not be endangered because the bloody war or ground war can only happen in Kuwait and Iraq.

Column Views Gulf War As 'Tranquilizer'

HK2801033191 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 28 Jan 91 pp 1, 9

["Analysis" column by Amando Doronila: "War in the Gulf Brings Political Truce at Home"]

[Text] Of all the countries of Asia, the Philippines has shown the most volatile reaction to the war in the Persian Gulf, no matter that it is 10,000 km away.

It was only in this country that there was panic buying and hoarding of groceries and petrol. Only this country has so far expelled an Iraqi diplomat, who has been linked by the authorities to the failed bombing at the Jefferson Library, even though many other countries are more immediate potential targets of such terrorist campaigns.

Last Saturday, the Australian ambassador cancelled a party marking Australia Day as a security precaution against terror bombing. Other functions involving nationals of countries that have sent forces to the U.S.-led multinational coalition in the Gulf have been cancelled.

Travellers flying out of Manila have been assigned to check in at the international airport four hours—instead of the normal two hours—before departure to allow a more thorough check of their baggage and personal belongings.

There is no quarrel about taking security precautions; there are many U.S. installations and foreign establishments in this country that can pass for targets of terrorists. But these overreaction and extreme precutions require explanation.

These anxieties gripping the government, as well as the public, are manifestations of how confident we are that the national economy, the government and the security forces can cope with a political and economic crisis that is sure to deepen as the war drags on.

After the initial panic reaction, rather illogical considering that we are not in the line of fire and we are not in the front lines, this deep sense of insecurity remains. Indeed, calm has returned after we have realized that there was no need to hoard groceries and that there is no way to store excess petrol in the backyard without taking even greater risks—an explosion or a fire.

Apart from the anxiety it has caused at the beginning, the war has tranquilized the nation into a political ceasefire. War has made the nation forget that it is heading for a presidential election next year, and we have a respite from an overheated political atmosphere. It is unpatriotic and in bad political taste to rock the boat while the nation is bracing itself for the economic repercussions of war. And the immediate beneficiary of this tranquilizer and cessation of political fighting is the Aquino government.

With the politicians holding their fire, the government has received very little sniping, although it cannot be said that it has, during this period of borrowed tranquility, made any profound policy moves that could make the economy withstand the shocks of a prolonged war. Neither has this government demonstrated that it is more sure-footed now to respond to the deepening of the crisis than before the war broke out.

To be sure, it has prepared a contingency plan, after much incoherence and confusion at the beginning, but such a plan cannot pass for creative policy to make the economy resilient to the repercussions of war. For example, up to now, the fate of the tax reform legislation and the liberalized investment legislation is still hanging fire in Congress, and the Palace is not using its influence or suasive powers on Congress to act urgently on these bills. There remains no sense of urgency both in the Palace and in Congress to take the bull of economic structural reform by the horns, and the best time to take reform initiatives is during a crisis. The policy of ending the subsidy on petroleum products is not firm. There are still many voices in Congress seeking to roll back the oil prices, even though it has been demonstrated clearly that this subsidy policy cannot be financially supported and bloats budgetary deficits. There is no firm statement from the Palace that the policy is irrevocable.

Because this government is passing off the opportunity offered by the tranqilizer of war in bringing a political ceasefire to undertake policy initiatives, one can legitimately raise the question whether this government deserves this respite.

There has, of course, been a change in key Cabinet posts, the most notable of which is the activist intervention of the executive secretary, Oscar Orbos, in dismantling the residential cordon sanitaire that has closeted the President in a lotus pond. There has also been a change in style, with the Palace being more open to the public and with the President visiting public places and even coddling babies.

But this is all style, and by no means can we say that style is policy. There is plenty of shuffling of feet and of dulcet reassurances that the nation has oil supplies for 70 days and can cope, but what the government is doing is merely waiting to react to further crises arising from the war.

Mr. Orbos' kinetic style also serves as a tranquilizer. It mesmerizes the public into thinking that things are moving and that there is action emanating at last from the Palace. But if we examine more closely what Mrs. Orbos is doing, the action has been mainly in opening up the Palace to the public, just like what President Magsaysay did, and giving access to the public to free telephone calls, and in demolishing the bunkers of the internal bureaucracies of Malacanang.

If Mr. Orbos is taking much of his time in this demolition task, it only goes to show how entrenched was the cordon sanitaire that separated the presidency from the people. But let us not blame the cordon entirely for the incompetent and clumsy responses of the President to crises or her phlegmatic approach to formulating policy initiatives.

It is said that the cordon gave bad advice. What is not said is that the President shuts off advice she does not want to listen to. The cordon merely aggravated a basic flaw in Mrs. Aquino's style of presidency—which is that it does not take risks. But in a period of transition, especially during crisis, it is risk-taking and taking control of events that turn the tide. Even though the former inhabitants of the bureaucratic bunkers at the Palace isolated the President from the flow of information from the people, they ought not to be blamed for the basic style of the Aquino presidency—the wellspring of which emanates from her own conceptions that power is not to be used and risk-taking is taboo.

Suspect Arrested in U.S. Colonel's Murder

HK2801102791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Report by Vic Pambuan]

[Text] Agents of the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] have captured one of the suspects in the killing of Colonel James Rowe of JUSMAG in January 1989. Arrested was Tadeuz Arnaiz Abolencia, 25, resident of 13 Amparo Street, Novaliches, Quezon City, and a member of a newly organized Political Assassination Team, or PAT, under the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] regional command. The team is responsible for carrying out surveillance and pinpointing assassination targets like foreigners, diplomats, and suspected CIA officers and agents. The team includes Kit Belmonte, political officer; Comrade Alep, team leader; Freddie Abella, deputy team leader; Donato Continente, and the arrested Tadeuz Abolencia.

Tadeuz was arrested by a disguised jogger in the person of NBI director Alfredo Lim, together with some NBI agents at the U.S. Embassy's waiting shed in Roxas Boulevard at 1400 this afternoon. Tadeuz, who was waiting for his passport to go to the United States, was surprised by the arrest. The authorities strongly believe that Tadeuz was involved in the crime after Juanito Itaal, also a member of the assassination team, was arrested and implicated Tadeuz. Tadeuz is presently detained at the NBI and is undergoing interrogation in relation to his participation in the killing of JUSMAG Colonel James Rowe.

Military Chief Outlines Goals, Role

BK2701110691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Manila, Jan 27 (AFP)—Manila hopes to reduce the communist threat to a police problem in three to five years so the military can assume its proper role as guardian of the country's borders, Philippine's military chief said Sunday.

Marine Lieutenant General Rodolfo Biazon said that since 1987 the New People's Army (NPA) armed strength has dropped sharply to its current level of about 17,250.

The military has so far borne the brunt of battling the nearly 22-year-old rebellion.

"Maybe within a span of three to five years, depending on other factors like the economy and so forth, I foresee that the Armed Forces may even be able to completely turn over the responsibility of counter-insurgency operations" to the Philippine National Police (PNP), he said.

Lt. Gen. Biazon was speaking on President Corazon Aquino's taped weekly radio talk show, the transcript of which was made available to the press several hours before broadcast.

The PNP is the result of the merger of the Paramilitary Constabulary, one of the military's four major services, with the police forces this year.

The police's assumption of counter-insurgency role would allow Manila to "lay the groundwork of building an armed forces that will be decent enough or decently provided to attend to the problem of preserving our national sovereignty, in terms of our borders," Lt. Gen. Biazon said.

This would allow the Armed Forces to become "actually tools of the foreign policy of this country," he said.

The Philippine archipelago, the world's second largest, is inadequately defended by one of the most poorly-equipped armies in the region.

External defense has been the de facto responsibility of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

However, Washington has insisted its mutual defense treaty with Manila did not extend to backing Philippine claims on the Malaysian state of Sabah and on parts of the disputed Spratley Islands.

Both Mrs. Aquino and Lt. Gen. Biazon, who assumed his post on Tuesday, have pledged to modernize the Armed Forces.

But the military chief admitted Sunday that "set programs last year may not be met because of the current state of the economy."

Mrs. Aquino said in the radio program that "we will just have to maximize our resources" by identifying priorities and supporting them, while "those that can be deferred for a little time will have to be done so."

Lt. Gen. Biazon said the military will ensure that the "cutting edge" of its anti-insurgency campaign will not be hampered.

"I am referring to line battalions, helicopter units, Philippine Navy patrol units," he said. "We may have to cut down on certain administrative activities, command and control activities, and maybe even non-essential activities."

Aquino Accepts Aide's Resignation

HK1901045591 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] President Corazon Aquino accepted the resignation of Elfren Cruz, chief of the Presidential Management Staff. The president appointed Transportation Undersecretary Herminio Coloma to replace Cruz.

The Presidential Management Staff will be merged with the Cabinet Secretariat under the reorganization proposed by Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos. Orbos explained there is duplication of responsibilities by the two departments. Meanwhile, it was reported that Cruz' resignation was a result of a misunderstanding with some Malacanang officials. Aquino, on the other hand, said she will miss Cruz because he performed well.

Thailand

Chatchai Views Prospects for DPRK Embassy

BK2701072891 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan says that there should be no problem for Thailand to establish diplomatic relations with North Korea and permit a North Korean embassy to be set up in Thailand, because North Korea and South Korea are going to be unified. Thailand will therefore treat them both equally without discrimination, the prime minister told reporters at the Royal Thai Air Force Airport before leaving for Chiang Rai Province this morning.

[Begin Chatchai recording in progress] ...on the request of the president. I have seen that North Korea and South Korea are seeking reunification. Therefore, there should not be any problem.

[Reporter] Do we have to place a limit on the role of the diplomats to come?

[Chatchai] Limit what? [laughter] They know that we will treat both of them [North and South Korea] the same way without any discrimination.

[Reporter] Will it benefit our country?

[Chatchai] Of course, because we will have more friends. As an exporting country, the more friends we have, the better we are.

[Reporter] Will it benefit our economy too?

[Chatchai] Yes, the economy is important. [end recording]

Cabinet Approves Embassy Proposal

BK2701151491 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 27 Jan 91 pp 1, 21

[Text] According to a report from Government House, the 22 January meeting of the Cabinet approved the Foreign Ministry's proposal for North Korea to open its embassy in Thailand. The meeting discussed the proposal in a secret and urgent manner. The National Security Council [NSC] and the National Intelligence Agency [NIA] had already approved the proposal.

According to the report, the NSC had reasoned that South Korea and the Soviet Union already established diplomatic relations in September, that relations between North and South Korea have shown improvement, and that North Korea no longer affected Thailand's security. The NSC felt that establishment of South Korea-Soviet diplomatic relations would lead to a new power balance in the Korean peninsula and East Asia and that South and North Korea have been working toward reunification. As a result, Thailand should establish relations with North Korea to suit the new scenario.

The report said the NIA reasoned that relations between Thailand and North Korea have improved steadily, particularly in the economic and trade fields, and that the exchanges of visits at various levels indicated North Korea's desire to elevate relations with Thailand.

The report said the Cabinet decision amounts to a major change in diplomatic posture and a new dimension in the conduct of foreign policy. The issue might be discussed with the North Korean prime minister during his 29 January-1 February visit to Thailand. The committee for preparing the visit, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Chaloemphan Siwikon, already met once on the visit.

According to the report, although the Cabinet has approved the establishment of the North Korean Embassy, certain security agencies have registered their observations. They noted that North Korean diplomats were known to abuse their diplomatic privileges by smuggling, narcotics trafficking, using the territory of the host country to compete with South Korea for influence, and conducting terrorism against South Korea—as evidenced by the explosion in the attempted assassination of South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan during his visit to Burma. These security agencies felt that if the Korean Embassy were opened, the number of embassy diplomats should be limited and their biographies should be given a security check. The diplomats would be declared personna non grata if their behavior were found to be incompatible with their status. If this were the case, North Korea could not blame Thailand for jeopardizing bilateral diplomatic relations.

The report concluded that the agencies concerned reasoned that allowing North Korea to open its embassy will be beneficial, because it will demonstrate Thailand's independent foreign policy. Moreover, the action will correspond with the current world situation. It was felt that the contest for influence between South and North Korea in Thailand will become less acute and that Thailand will be able to maintain balanced relations with the two countries, although with considerable trade and investment volume in Thailand, South Korea could react. This problem will have to be considered as it arises.

Downed Army Pilot Interrogated in Phnom Penh

BK2601040791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] A Thai Army pilot, believed to have been released by Phnom Penh troops after he crashlanded in Cambodia, has actually been taken to the Khmer capital for interrogation, Thai military sources said.

Sub-Lt Prinya Chayawong has been detained since Wednesday after an engine trouble forced him to crashland his L-19 spotter plane at a Cambodian airfield south of the Thai district of Aranyaprathet.

Thai military officers had negotiated with Cambodian commanders in the Cambodian border town of Poi Pet but failed to convince them to return the pilot, the sources said.

The sources said Sub-Lt Prinya was taken to Phnom Penh at the order of Defence Minister Tie Banh for more interrogation. The officer was reported to be slightly injured.

It was reported earlier that there was also a mechanic on board the plane, but the sources confirmed yesterday that Sub-Lt Prinya was flying alone before the crashlanding.

The plane was seriously damaged and reportedly moved by truck from the crash site to a Phnom Penh forces' position in Bantey Meanchey Province.

Army Units on Alert at Cambodian Border

BK2601150991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Army Secretary Major General Anuson Kritsanaserani stated during a briefing that although there has been no report of violence at the Thai border near Cambodia as the fighting is deep inside Cambodia, the army commander in chief has ordered army units in the area to be on the alert and not be complacent. Soldiers must always be prepared for national defense and the suppression of armed foreign bandits plundering and robbing border villagers inside Thai territory.

[Begin Anuson recording] According to instructions from the army commander, the situation at the border might look calm, but a retaliation from the Heng Samrin forces later is possible. The army chief told us not to be idle, but to take advantage of the present lull to familiarize ourselves with the terrain as this would be useful in future. Concerning locals being robbed by armed bandits, the army commander has instructed local units to step up suppression operations. [end recording]

7 Arabs Under Surveillance After Illegal Entry

BK2701022291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] Police are keeping a close watch on seven men from the Middle East suspected to be members of a pro-Iraqi group that might engage in terrorist activities in Thailand, a police source said last night.

The source said the men recently arrived in the country illegally through the southern border and that the Special Branch Division police know where they are. The source however did not give details about the nationalities.

Gulf Relief Center Not To Be Dissolved

BK2601033091 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jan 91 p A2

[Text] Foreign Minister Athit Urairat said yesterday that the ministry's relief coordinating centre for Thai workers in the Gulf would continue its work while keeping a low profile.

Athit made the remark to reporters before departing for a 24-hour official visit to Singapore where he was expected to meet Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng.

Athit said the centre, which is keeping a close around-the-clock watch on develpments in the Gulf crisis, particularly its impact on the safety of more than 100,000 Thai workers and other Thai interests, would not be dissolved.

The centre is to continue providing periodic assessments of the situation to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and other concerned parties, he said. The centre, as well as Athit, has been subject to incessant criticism for being too closely involved in the Gulf crisis, which critics say is making Thailand a tempting target for terrorists.

The foreign minister, however, denied that Thailand has been specifically targeted by terrorists. "But as we are a free-access country, such an event could happen if we relax and drop our guard."

He also said the current drop in the number of foreign tourists in Thailand was not caused by the terrorist threat but a worldwide phenomena which was created by the Gulf War. The fighting had caused a drop in the number of flights coming from Europe to Southeast Asia via the Middle East, he said, adding that the phenomena was temporary.

Athit said Thailand was stepping up its cooperation with other ASEAN members as well as Laos and Vietnam to cope with the loss. He said he would discuss with Singaporean leaders ways to boost inter-ASEAN cooperation intrade and tourism. Malaysia's recent proposal for the establishment of an East Asian Economic Cooperation Grouping and security cooperation within the region are to be among topics of discussion with the Singaporean leaders. Athit is to return to Bangkok this evening and will proceed to Laos on Monday.

Reportage on Reaction to Threats of Terrorism

Sunthon Discusses Security Measures

BK2501145391 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong granted an interview to newsmen concerning reports about Thailand becoming a target of terrorist attacks. He said recent news reports are rather outdated. Anyway, he cannot disclose military intelligence. He discussed measures taken for security protection at foreign embassies.

[Begin recording] [Sunthon in progress] ... Those news reports are outdated.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you know the origin of those news reports?

[Sunthon] We cannot trace their origin, but we have our own intelligence sources and we already knew about those reports. We had received the information a long time ago.

[Reporter] What kind of intelligence reports you have gotten lately?

[Reporter] Are they substantiated by facts?

[Sunthon] Yes, they contain facts. But I cannot tell you about it. We have facts and evidence in our hands. Besides, we have already taken action with certain individuals or cases. Anyway, I cannot reveal information about it.

[Reporter] There have been reports about movements in support of the people of the Middle East in our country. Are they true?

[Sunthon] Yes, they are true.

[Reporter] Are there many of them?

[Reporter] Quite a number of them. Besides...

[Question indistinct]

[Sunthon] Well, we cannot disclose intelligence news. We have taken steps for protection at the targeted embassies. We cannot disclose what we have done to those suspicious elements. [end recording]

The interior minister, Police General Praman Adireksan, meanwhile asserted that stringent security measures have been taken to prevent terrorist attacks. Police would take suspicious individuals for questioning and arrests would be made if there was appropriate evidence.

[Begin recording] [Praman in progress] ... We are closely following the situation. We are watching not only for terrorists, but also for ordinary criminals.

[Reporter] Do they know that they are being watched by authorities?

[Praman] We are keeping track of them. We called them up for questioning once we detected any suspicious activities. But if we have no evidence against them, we must let them go.

[Reporter] And if they are very suspicious, we ask them to leave the country. Don't we?

[Praman] Yes. [end recording]

Says Country Not Terrorism Center

BK2801013391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Jan 91 p A4

[By Sorayut Sutthassanachinda]

[Text] Supreme Commander Sunthon Khongsomphong, who said last week terrorist threats in Thailand were real, softened his tone yesterday denying foreign news reports that the country is a centre of pro-Iraq terrorism.

"We are not any type of terrorist centre and we are taking every step to ensure that we won't become one," he said.

Sunthon strongly defended Thailand's anti-terrorist measures that have woven an extensive security blanket over foreign citizens and installations that may be targetted by terrorists. "We just can't sit idly and wait for things to happen," Sunthon said. The military chief noted that while terrorist incidents have taken place in certain countries, Thailand has so far been safe.

Sunthon last week confirmed the LOS ANGELES TIMES report which quoted US intellignece sources as saying that Iraq had used Thailand as the logistics base for Asia-wide operations of terrorists trained in the Middle East country, now at war with the US-led multinational forces.

"They (the terrorists) gather here in Thailand because the freedom of movement here is greater than in most other countries, particularly in normal times. We Thai people are easy going and many foreigners like to visit and stay in Thailand," he said on Friday.

The Cable News Network [CNN] had also reported that Palestinian terrorists were trying to use Bangkok as their centre of operations. "The report is not true," Sunthon said yesterday.

Government Spokesman M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun yesterday reiterated the government's denial and urged the press not to pay much attention to such "unfounded accusations." Pridiyathon also denied reports that Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan wanted to give an interview with the CNN in order to deny the foreign reports about terrorist activities here. "Personally, I think we don't need to do that," Pridiyathon said. "That will just further publicize the issue."

THAI RATH newspaper reported yesterday Chatchai had asked the spokesman to contact anchorman Somkiat Onwimon to arrange for an interview with the CNN. "I don't understand why Thailand has been targetted for such unfounded reports," Pridiyathon said. "The best way to cope with them is to ignore them."

Prime Minister Chatchai last week instructed his Cabinet to counter the allegations through domestic and international public relations means.

A government statement issued last week said the Chatchai administration is "deeply concerned and dismayed at what is considered to be misleading news reports by the LOS ANGELES TIMES."

"Thai security forces were put on full alert at once on the slightest reports that Thailand was among the countries that might become a target of terrorist acts," it said.

Two Bangkok-based Iraqi diplomats and two others who stayed at the Iraqi Embassy after their eviction from Manila and Canberra left Thailand quietly last Wednesday at the request of Thai security officials, but the Foreign Ministry denied any knowledge of the action, publicity of which might affect Thailand's relationship with Iraq.

Officials on 'Terrorist Threat'

BK2601023891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jan 91 p A2

[Report by Kokhet Chanthaloetluk and Sorayut Suthatsanachinda]

[Text] The Government yesterday denied a published report attributed to "Western intelligence sources" which claimed that Thailand was a "logistic base" of pro-Iraqi terrorists operating in Asia.

But the military leader seemed to disagree with the government. Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong said the terrorist threat was "real" and that there was a basis to the story published by THE LOS ANGELES TIMES.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan was "very concerned" about the report and has instructed his Cabinet to counter the allegation through domestic and international public relations means, said government spokesman Pridiyathon Thewakun.

A government statement said the Chatchai administration is "deeply concerned and dismayed at what is considered to be misleading news reports by THE LOS ANGELES TIMES."

It said that since war broke out in the Persian Gulf on Jan 17, the government has taken immediate steps to increase security measures against possible terrorist attacks here.

"Thai security forces were put on full alert at once on the slightest reports that Thailand was among the countries that might become a target of terrorist acts," it said.

"(Thailand's) past record should show that the country has never been the target of terrorist acts or used as a base for terrorist activities. In large part, this is due to the balanced diplomatic posture which Thailand has always taken, especially in relation to the Middle East problem."

The statement added that the government was confident that "there exists no undue risks to the security and safety of all foreign nationals in Thailand."

Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, meanwhile, said more suspects had just entered the country after security officials took steps against most of the previously existing elements.

"Thai citizens were found to have colluded with the foreign suspects who have already faced official, confidential action by the military," Sunthon said.

"They (the Thai suspects) are only gunmen for hire but we have not taken action because we won't be able to acquire evidence against them until they act," said the supreme commander, who emerged yesterday as the centre of the anti-terrorism campaign here.

He refused to divulge the action against "somebodies and something," saying that exposure of the stories could cause some adverse effects.

Two Bangkok-based Iraqi diplomats and two others who stayed at the Iraqi Embassy after their eviction from Manila and Canberra left Thailand quietly last Wednesday at the request of Thai security officials, but the Foreign Ministry denied any knowledge of the action, publicity of which was feared to affect Thailand's relationship with Iraq.

The supreme commander said that all the intelligence on the matter is now in his hands and that he will call a meeting of senior officials from the three armed forces and the Police Department at noon next Tuesday to brief them on the latest situation.

Sunthorn confirmed THE LOS ANGELES TIMES report which quoted U.S. intelligence sources as saying that Iraq had used Thailand as the logistics base for Asia-wide operations of terrorists trained in the Middle East country, which is now at war with the U.S-led multinational forces over Iraqi annexation of neighbouring Kuwait.

"They (the terrorists) gather here in Thailand because the freedom of movement here is greater than in most other countries, particularly in normal times. We Thai people are easygoing and many foreigners like to visit and stay in Thailand," he said.

"The activities by a Middle East country here are real and many (suspects) are involved and that's why we have to tighten our security measures at various embassies which are their possible targets," said Sunthon, who is known to have close connections with the United States, Israel and the West.

Sunthorn said that the published stories on terrorist movements in Thailand and how Thai authorities handled them were "now outdated."

The Thai military has established links with an international network of anti-terrorism organizations around the world and they shared intelligence information on the matter, he said.

"We are not spreading false rumours (on possible terrorist action here) and this is a very delicate affair, you know. We cannot take any legal action against the suspects unless they have acted," he said.

[Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English on 26 January on pp 1, 3 carries a similar report which adds the following:

["Chiang Mai police were alerted to the arrival of six Muslim separatists wanted in the Philippines and suspected of planning terrorist attacks in the northern tourist capital.

["Deputy Chiang Mai Police Chief Col Samrit Phonghiran ordered all police stations, particularly those in Muang District, to watch people arriving at the airport, train and bus stations.

["The order was based on a tipoff that six Muslim separatists were heading for Chiang Mai after fleeing a clash with Philippine authorities."]

Police Chief on Security Steps

BK2801142091 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Talking to reporters at Phatthaya, Chon Buri Province, this morning on security measures, Police Department Director General Police General Sawat Amonwiwat said that authorities concerned have tried their best to maintain security by closely cooperating with the military. The police department director general also said that up to the present, there had been no report on threats of terrorism. Authorities have strengthened their security measures and have consistently followed news reports. He believes there should be no problem.

Paper Views Security Measures

BK2701100991 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 26 Jan 91 p 3

[Column by "Chaloem Khieo": "Grouping Embassies Together"]

[Text] A loud applause for those involved in security measures against possible terrorist acts per warnings from the U.S. Information Service. But there are two sides to everything. Many individuals, including those in the mass media circles, have expressed the view that the presence of armed security personnel around foreign embassies make it appear that Bangkok is in the midst of war.

Preventive security is praiseworthy, but a review of the methods of carrying it out would be welcome. In particular are the security measures at the airport, which give foreign tourists their first impression of Thailand. It would appear less frightening if the security personnel could conceal their weapons. These personnel could conceal their Uzis underneath their coats and stand behind the airport lounge pillars and still be able to react in time.

I am certain that every critic of the security measures has good intentions, therefore, it is hoped that the security people would not lose morale and relax their vigilance.

It is an honor for every Thai citizen to provide security for foreign diplomats in Thailand. One method which is being applied in several countries is the grouping together of residences of foreign diplomats. This method is practiced in Saudi Arabia, where residences of all foreign diplomats, regardless of their rivalry, are located in the same area. The benefit of this method is that it is easy to control access to the residential area. Faced with a threat of terrorism, the access road to the area can be easily closed and whatever weapons, even artillery pieces, can be deployed in the area without frightening the general public.

It is difficult to apply this method in Thailand because many embassies have already fortified and decorated their compounds. But if the government is serious, it should be able to convince the ally embassies to move their missions to secure grounds. France and the UK have already begun to apply this method.

It would be a good move for Thailand, where there is a lot of free space in its capital, such as behind the Thai Cultural Center and Chatuchak Park. A byproduct of this scheme is that the vacated embassy compounds, such as the U.S. Embassy, would make good commercial sites.

Media Urged To Use Care

BK2501134991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun, spokesman to the Prime Minister's Office, told a press conference at the government press center at 1330 today that some English-language newspapers carried news with the headline "Bangkok Is a Center for Iraqi Terrorist Networks in Asia." The news reports refer to a foreign newspaper's report which carries remarks given by an unidentified foreign official. The spokesman to the Prime Minister's Office said that he would like to point out that the news was given by a person who harbors bad intentions toward Thailand and is aimed at painting an exaggerated and fearful picture.

The spokesman to the Prime Minister's Office would like to ask the mass media to be careful in presenting such news that affects the general public's feeling of security in the country. They should make sure that the persons who give the news have credible evidence and should also make sure whether or not the persons harbor bad intentions toward Thailand.

Troops Guard Against Iraqi Terrorists

BK2601025691 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jan 91 p A2

[Report by Sorayut Suthatsanachinda]

[Text] Over 1,000 soldiers have been deployed to protect foreign citizens and installations that may be targeted by pro-Iraq terrorists, informed military sources said yesterday.

The soldiers have reinforced police whose manpower was insufficient for the large-scale security alert which followed warnings of possible terrorist acts here, the sources said. Hundreds of border patrol policemen have also joined the extensive security blanket.

The sources said more western embassies have requested protection by Thai authorities. "That means hundreds more men are needed," said one of sources.

Government sources, meanwhile, said the US warnings might not only be aimed at prompting Thailand to take precautions. The United States, the sources said, might also want to see Thailand make a firmer commitment regarding the Gulf crisis. The warnings have made Iraq "a threat" here, in addition to being a threat in the Middle East, the sources noted.

Thailand supports the UN resolutions against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, but the Thai government has tried to avoid direct criticism of Baghdad. Foreign Minister Athit Urairat came under a heavy political onslaught when he voiced strong support for UN measures to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

The special branch police have urged the press not to play up the terrorist threats, which the government fears would affect Thailand's image. Thailand has asked four Iraqis, including two diplomats, to leave the country because of their possible connections with terrorist movements, the government sources said.

They noted that while other countries have taken tough action against Iraqis suspected of having terorist links, Thailand has taken cautious measures aimed at avoiding angering Iraq. While Iraqi diplomats are being "expelled" worldwide, Thailand "requested" suspicious Iraqis to leave, the sources said.

Chatchai Rejects CNN Report

BK2801150591 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan today rejected a CNN [Cable News Network] report indicating that Thailand was a center of the Abu Nidal organization, a terrorist group linked to Iraq. The prime minister said the report was groundless and that Thailand was rather a tourist center. He also rejected a live interview with CNN to clarify the matter. Thawatchai Kritiyaphichatkun has the following report:

[Begin recording] [Thawatchai] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan believes CNN obtained the information from various Western news agencies. The information which says Thailand is a center of the Abu Nidal organization is inaccurate. Thailand is not a center of any terrorist movement, but a center of tourism. The prime minister has also denied ever giving instructions to the team of spokesmen attached to the Prime Minister's Office to arrange for an interview with CNN.

[Chatchai] I have never given such an instruction.

[Unidentified reporter] What position will the government adopt in response to thses kind of reports?

[Chatchai] I am not an international news analyst; I am a prime minister. It is another kind of job.

[Reporter] But this kind of news report worldwide could affect tourism in Thailand.

[Chatchai] I think tourists from the Pacific region, the United States, west of the United States, South Korea, and Taiwan are still coming to Thailand. I met those people in Phatthaya. I also asked people there about the effects on tourism and they said it was slight.

[Reporter] Have you checked the reports concerning terrorist groups in Thailand?

[Chatchai] I am still waiting for reports from the police, who are directly in charge of this matter. Anyway, I am confident that there will be no problem.

[Reporter] Do you mean that you are confident of the precautionary measures taken?

[Chatchai] Yes, we have adopted tough measures and we are being very cautious. Reinforcements will be sent to major installations. We are not underestimating the situation. [end recording]

Chatchai Predicts Little Impact From Gulf War

BK2601084991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Answering questions from newsmen about measures to cope with economic problems generated by the war in the Middle East after chairing the meeting of the Council of Economic Ministers yesterday, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan said Thailand has no problem in this area because economic planning is done every year or at regular intervals. In any event, although the war in the Middle East could slow down Thailand's economic growth, the annual growth will exceed 7.5 percent. He said he is confident that the economic picture will improve after the war ends, due to the drop in oil prices and interest rates.

Regarding the war's impact on tourism, the prime minister said it is normal for tourists from some countries to cancel their trips due to fear of the war. However, tourists from the Pacific—the United States, Japan, and Hong Kong—have continued to visit Thailand. Therefore, it is apparent that tourism in Thailand has not been affected much.

The prime minister said there will be no impact on infrastructure development. He noted that the agenda of the Board of Investment meeting next week contains many investment proposals. Therefore, continued infrastructure development is essential and there will be no problems if this can be accomplished.

The prime minister pointed out that exports will step up after the war ends, but freight insurance and transport cost will pose a problem. He felt that Thai workers will be in great demand once the war ends because the warring countries will have to undertake national reconstruction.

Another Medical Team Departs for Saudi Arabia

BK2701052091 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] The Ministry of Public Health has dispatched another medical team to Saudi Arabia in support of medical treatment in that country.

The medical team comprising 20 health personnel left for Saudi Arabia last night and it will continue the operations launched by the previous Thai medical team sent by the Public Health Ministry.

Meanwhile, the Thai commercial counselor to Israel, Thana Khanrattanadilok, said a group of Thai nationals has been evacuated from risky areas in Tel Aviv as it was anticipated that the Gulf war would prolong and escalate. More Thai nationals would be relocated from the capital of Israel in the event of an attack on the city.

Commander in Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin said the Air Force has prepared aircraft for the massive repatriation of Thai workers from the Middle East if ordered by the government.

Ministry Suspends Export of Workers to Mideast

BK2601031591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jan 91 p A2

[Oranut Anusaksathian]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has temporarily suspended the export of Thai workers to the Middle East in the face of the escalating war in the Persian Gulf, said the deputy minister in charge of labour affairs.

Deputy Interior Minister Watthana Atsawahem clearly spelt out his policy yesterday, saying that he preferred to see Thai workers seek employment at home rather than risk their lives abroad. "Although the pay for a job overseas is high, the cost of living is high, too," added Watthana.

In line with the policy, the Labour Department, on Wednesday, stopped the trip of 41 Thai workers, who were contracted by a local job placement agency to work in Libya. The department was informed about the departure of the workers by airport authorities.

The group was to change flights in Cairo, Egypt, according to Amphon Chunnanon, deputy director-general of the Labour Department. She said the action was taken for the workers' own safety. Although the department did not have the authority to suspend the trip, a group of labour officers had talked all of them into changing their mind, Amphon said. They finally agreed to return home to the northeastern provinces. Had they been allowed to travel to Libya on Wednesday, Amphon said, they would have been stuck at the Cairo airport. On Thursday, Egypt ordered its internatifonal airport in that city closed because of the tension in the Gulf.

Another group of six workers bound for Libya, who are stranded at Amman airport has asked the Labour Department to bring them back home. However, no assistance can be rendered to this group because both Amman and Libya are not in the ministry's list of sensitive areas where Thai workers will be evacuated or returned to Thailand.

There are 12 Thai workers in Iraq, all of them but one was willing to remain there to work, said Amphon, because he was tested positive for AIDS when the evacuation of the last group was scheduled to be completed on Jan 14, two days before the US-led alliance attacked Baghdad. Previous reports from the Labour Department showed that there were only nine Thai workers in Iraq.

The Labour Department is prepared to evacuate the remaining 1,000 workers in Bahrain, 2,000 in Israel, 2,000 in Qatar, 500 in Oman, 20,000 in Libya and between 600-700 workers in other Middle Eastern cuntries to the United Arab Emirates if the war spreads, Amphon said.

So far a total of 113 Thai workers have informed the Thai assistance centres in the Middle East that they wanted to return home. Many of them said they are willing to pay for their flights.

500 Pro-Saddam Muslims Hold Religious Service

BK2701011091 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jan 91 pp A1, A2

[Text] The Gulf War has spilled over into the Muslim community in Thailand.

Last week, Chularatchamontri [Muslim Spiritual Leader] Prasoet Mahamat, the official religious leader of the Thai Muslim population, said the US-led offensive against Iraq was a war against a country which annexed another. But yesterday, a group of the self-proclaimed "new generation of Muslims" said the conflict was a war between Muslims and non-Muslims.

The younger Muslim leaders organized a religious prayer (Lamad) to seek blessing for Iraq's protection of the religion and for those who have been killed in the Gulf war. About 500 of them participated in the event held at Thailand's Islam Centre in the Khlong Tan area yesterday.

In a speech to the gathering before the prayer rite, Witthaya Wisettrat, a lecturer of the Santichon Foundation, said the congregation was also aimed at showing that Thai Muslims did not support terrorism in Thailand as many people might believe. He claimed many Thai Muslims had started questioning Western reports portraying Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as a brutal robber.

"Many have started asking whether this (the Gulf war) is a religious war. Now 80 per cent of the Thai Muslims have taken a stand," he said. Saddam has repeatedly asserted the war is a jihad (holy war) and called on all Muslims wherever they are to stand up against the US-led military operation in the Gulf.

Vithaya criticized Prasoet Mahamat's comments on the Gulf war as devisive. "His comments have caused a split because they implied there was a minority group (in the Muslim community) which is stirring up unrest," the religious lecturer said. Prasoet Mahamat's comments were aimed at diverting the public's attention from the crux of the conflict, he said.

Leaders of the prayer cited religious teachings during the ceremony, which was observed by a group of reporters.

Karun Kuyai, president of an organization of 27 Muslim groups, officially called the Organization of Thai Muslims, later told reporters that the congregation was called to "set the record straight" on how the Thai Muslims felt about the Gulf War.

"This is a war between Muslims and non-Muslims and that's why we are here to pray for a victory by the Muslims," he said.

He said the coordinating committee of the Muslim organizations had agreed that the Gulf war would lead to "conflicts of a ferocity never seen before in history" and that without a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problems, a "bigger war" would be inevitable.

"The seeds of the Middle East problems were sown by the colonial powers during the First World War. Their mistake was to arbitrarily demarcate national boundaries to divide territories and to bring economic benefits for themselves in the Middle East. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was a step to correct the wrong," he said. He added that even though the United States and the West would be able to win the war with their superior military might, the conflicts would still remain.

There was a need to resolve the issues in the region through negotiations, he said, adding that the war would kill many innocent people and destroy property. Only arms dealers would stand to gain from it, he added. He said the solution should be an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of all forces from disputed Kuwait to allow the United Nations to mediate the conflict. The United Nations, however, must assume a neutral stand, he added.

In addition, every country concerned must also recognize that the Palestinian problem resulted from support by superpowers for Israel, that Israel illegally occupied territories of Arab neighbours and that the issue must be resolved, he said. He added that the negotiations must be left to the Arab nations and be free from superpower "intervention".

Foreign forces must also pull out of Saudi Arabia, which is considered a sacred land to Muslims, he said.

Thai Muslims Give Peace Letter to U.S. Embassy

BK2801013791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Jan 91 p A2

[Text] A small group of Thai Muslims yesterday submitted a letter to the US Embassy asking US President George Bush to end the Gulf War as soon as possible.

Anuruk Kamit Jaka, an employee of the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand gathered with seven other people calling themselves "Thai-Muslim peace lovers" in front of the Sogo Department Store on Ploenchit Road, but their plan to march to the US Embassy was blocked by police. They were instead taken to the Lumphini police station where they met a representative of the US mission and gave him the letter.

The letter said that the group "on behalf of Thai people who long for peace" urged US President George Bush to end the Gulf war. It said that Muslims were saddened by the casualties both Iraq and the US-led forces were suffering in the Persian Gulf.

Foreign Ministry Official Defends Mideast Policy

BK2501152491 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Suwit Khunkitti, secretary to the foreign minister, said that some members of parliament from the opposition parties and mass media had criticized the government's policy toward the Middle East crisis. In particular, they have said that the government policy has dragged the country into the war and caused Thailand to become a target of terrorism. Therefore, he would like to point out that the Thai Government's policy is in line with the UN resolutions, which have received overwhelming support from the international community in accordance with the UN Charter. Thailand's expression of support for the UN Security Council resolutions does not necessarily make it an enemy of other countries. This just shows our commitment to the principles which are acceptable to the world community. Abiding by the UN Charter is a policy of every Thai government and has been supported by the National Assembly.

The secretary to the foreign minister explained that the terrorism threat is happening around the world. When the Gulf war erupted, a country involved in the Middle East conflict announced that it would retaliate against the opposition by carrying out acts of terrorism against its opponent's property and installations around the world. Thailand has cooperated with other friendly countries in preventing international terrorism. Thailand is not a terrorist target under the current situation. There is no threat against the property and interests of the Thai people. However, to be cautious and preventive, Thai military and police officials have tried their best to prevent the acts of terrorism. The Thai Government's seriousness toward this issue will help strengthen the confidence of foreigners as well as the Thai people. This will be beneficial to the country in the long-term because foreigners may give Thailand more credit for paying attention to providing protection and adhering to certain principles. This should have positive effects on trade, the economy, tourism, and investment.

The secretary said that the decrease of foreign tourists visiting the country is an event which is also happening in other countries because the Western countries and Japan have tried to warn their people not to travel abroad during this time. In addition, the airlines' reduction of the number of flights and their increase in insurance fares for passengers to the Middle East, which is a link between flights from Europe to Bangkok and Southeast Asia, have also caused a decrease in tourists. However, this will be just a temporary phenomenon during a time of war. He believed that the situation will return to normal after the war.

Vietnam

NHAN DAN Reviews Gulf War 'After Seven Days'

BK2501093991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Jan 91

[NHAN DAN commentary: "The Gulf War After Seven Days"—date not given]

[Text] As of today, the Gulf war is seven days old. During the last week, the United States-led multinational forces mobilized a large air force comprised of the most advanced airplanes, aimed at destroying Iraqi defense systems in preparation for a ground offensive.

But their plan to launch a lightning attack to win a swift victory appears to have been impractical.

U.S. force commanders in the Gulf claimed that U.S. and allied air forces had acted exactly as planned. But they admitted that they had failed to achieve their objectives. Pentagon officials told U.S. congressmen that the war would not end swiftly, as previously planned. They anticipated that Operation Desert Storm would drag on for months rather than weeks. U.S. President Bush admitted at a news conference in Washington held immediately after the outbreak of the war that this war might be prolonged and costly.

An important objective in the initial phase of Operation Desert Storm was to wipe out and destroy Iraqi air defense systems. But according to U.S. military circles, so far only 15 Iraqi airplanes have been destroyed.

The U.S. newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES noted that after four days of war, U.S. officials have been compelled to admit that the bulk of the Iraqi air force is still intact. Another objective was to wipe out Iraqi's Scud missile sites. But according to many sources, after a week of efforts, this objective has yet to be achieved. Scud missiles are continuing to slam onto Israeli and Saudi Arabian territories.

A spokesman for the U.S. Defense Department revealed that the trackdown of Iraqi missile launch sites have met difficulties. According to Major General (Keri), operations officer of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Iraq has camouflaged its Scud launch sites in an effort to deceive and confuse the airplanes of the U.S.-led multinational forces. U.S. Air Force Major General (Moore) said Iraqi Scud missile launchers and other military objectives are still operational following 8,100 combat sorties made by U.S. and allied airplanes. He also admitted that they have been unable to achieve their war objectives in any areas.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi side announced that it had shot down 160 enemy airplanes and captured 25 enemy pilots. The Iraqi side also stated that it had won the first phase of the war and that President Bush's ambition for winning a swift and decisive victory has been dashed. Iraq wants to prolong the war in order to bog down the U.S. forces in this burning desert region.

Not only have the calculations by the planners of Operation Desert Storm backfired in the battlefield, but the war waged by them also has become a problem because the developments in the war have exposed many objectives only connected with U.S. interests. Many Arab countries have been quick to realize this fact and have promptly denounced the fact that the U.S.-led Gulf war has gone beyond those objectives specified in the UN resolution. The deployment of a huge U.S. and allied military force in the area has turned out to be aimed neither at defending Saudi Arabia as initially claimed nor at forcing Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait as cited in the UN resolution. Based on the statements and combat activities of the United States and its allies, the war is also aimed at eliminating President Husayn's regime, destroying the military, national defense, and economic infrastructures and population centers of Iraq's society, and breaking the strength of this country in an attempt to change the balance of power in the region in a way that is favorable to the United States, the West, and Israel.

When analyzing the five factors in the Bush Administration's plan for war in the Gulf region, THE NEW YORK TIMES confirmed the fact that the war is being commanded in the direction of serving the United States' private interests. Therefore, it is difficult to justify this war—a war that is being increasingly condemned by public opinion. And what is certain is an unavoidable split among the belligerent countries on the side of the U.S.-led multinational forces.

The fierceness of this war and the truth about its objectives, as well as the prospects of a protracted and expanded war with its unpredictable consequences, have caused deep concern in the world and stirred up a wave of protest in all continents. In the United States, street demonstrations of the masses against war take place daily in many cities. Such slogans as "We don't want war," "No blood for oil," "Bring our youths home," and "How many men has Bush kill today?" have struck up memories of the movement against the U.S. war in Vietnam.

Although the Bush administration has won the support of a majority in the U.S. Congress, it is obvious that the United States is critically divided on this serious problem. The percentage of U.S. citizens against war is increasing.

In Western countries as well as in many others, especially those with large numbers of Islamic followers, the movement against the Gulf war is also seething. Decisive acts already have been reported—an U.S. citizen has set himself on fire and a Czech sergeant [as heard] who was assigned to the Gulf region has committed suicide.

BBC radio noted: Obviously, there is worry in the United States that support for this war will quickly dissolve when the loss of lives increases and that the U.S. people once again will be obsessed with Vietnam.

At a time when the storm of fire and steel is wreaking death and destruction in the Gulf region, let mankind's conscience echo the voice of reason and justice, that is, the need to put an immediate end to the war before it becomes a more dreadful disaster. Let all sides return to the negotiating table and seek an equitable and rational solution. Despite the fact that many initiatives have been put forth and discussed, this voice remains unheeded. Responsible people in the U.S. Administration appear to have no desire for talks at this stage. In their opinion, Operation Desert Storm must go on. As THE NEW YORK TIMES revealed, this is because the United States is looking for a victory in this war, with the aim of turning itself into the only superpower in the Middle East.

The voice of reason and justice still cannot drown out the sound of bombs and shells in the Gulf region.

Peace Groups Issue 'Press Communique' on War

BK2501140391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] On 24 January in Hanoi, the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations in Vietnam, the Vietnam Peace Committee, and the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization [AAPSO] in Vietnam held a meeting on the Gulf situation and subsequently released a press communique.

The communique stated that representing overall public opinion, the meeting's participants showed great concern about the war that broke out in the Gulf, despite of all efforts by the world community to prevent it.

More seriously, there is a danger that the war may gradually spread and become fiercer, thereby threatening peace, security, and the regional and global environment. In that situation, the participants welcomed and supported the peace initiatives of AAPSO, of a number of nonaligned countries, and of other international organizations. Together with the people of the world, the participants demanded an end to the war and the restoration of peace.

The participants urged the related governments, the peaceful movements in the world, and national and international organizations, especially the United Nations, to consider ending the Gulf war their first priority at the moment, to urgently find a solution to stop the fighting, and to lead the involved parties toward a political solution to maintain long-lasting peace in the region and the world.

President Asks Saddam for Workers' Quick Return

BK2701085491 Hanoi VNA in English 0726 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 27 - President Vo Chi Cong has sent a message to President Saddam Hussein asking the latter, the government and concerned ministries and services of Iraq to create favourable conditions for the return home at an earliest time of the remaining Vietnamese guest workers from Iraq, particularly medical women workers.

The message was conveyed here yesterday by Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan to Iraqi Chage d'Affaires A.I. Abbas Fadhil Abid.

Vietnamese Workers Returning Home Through Jordan

BK2701134391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] The International Organization for Migration reported that on 26 January, 580 Vietnamese workers who came to Jordan from Iraq 10 days ago were sent to (Nuvemba) port in the Gulf of Aqaba for a trip to Cairo on 27 January. The workers afterward will board a Japanese airliner for Ho Chi Minh City.

Another group of 500 Vietnamese workers will soon be returned home through Jordan.

NHAN DAN Reviews Foreign Affairs in 1990

BK2801092991 Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 28—"The open-door foreign policy has initially created favourable conditions for the Vietnamese people's national construction and defence, thus contributing to peace, friendship and cooperation in the region and the world", notes the national daily NHAN DAN in an article reviewing Vietnam's external relations in 1990.

The paper continues: "1990 marked a new step of development in Vietnam's relations with other countries.

"By the end of the 80's and particularly in 1990, the situation in the world and in Southeast Asia became very complicated, but a new tendency emerged especially among big countries, whereby struggle and peaceful coexistence go hand in hand. In that context, the 12-year-old Cambodia issue entered the final stage in the direction of a political solution. The Vietnamese Army volunteers completely withdrew from Cambodia in September 1989. Another factor of paramount significance was the initial successes of Vietnam in its renovation undertaken in the light of the resolutions of the Communist Party of Vietnam's Sixth National Congress. All these factors have created favourable conditions for a new step of development in the relations between Vietnam and other countries. This can be seen in the following five points:

"First, the time-honoured friendship between Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia has been strengthened and developed on a new basis in the interest of regional peace and development, and in line with each country's characteristics and requirements in the new stage of their revolution. The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia and Laos has not weakened the national security and defence of the three countries. On the contrary, it shows that Vietnam always respects the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Laos and Cambodia, and that the sending of Vietnamese Army volunteers to Laos and Cambodia was to help them assume the tasks of national defence by themselves and choose the way of development suited to their national needs. The three governments are revising the mechanism and mode of cooperation in order to make it more effective. On the other hand, their trilateral cooperation puts no hindrance to each country's cooperation with other countries.

"Second, there has been obvious improvement in Vietnam's relations with neighbouring countries. Though Vietnam's relations with her Southeast Asian neighbours and China on the whole have not yet completely normalized, they improved last year. Most outstanding was Vietnam's cooperation with Indonesia and Thailand in the Cambodia issue and the settlement of bilateral questions while relations with China are in the process of normalization. Vietnamese and Chinese leaders met and assured each other of their desire for normalization. Naturally, this matter would take time, since to heal a wound left by many years would not be possible in a few months. Nevertheless, as was said by General-secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nguyen Van Linh, 'that day is not distant'".

"Third, positive and important changes took place in Vietnam's relations with both West and North European countries which were the first developed capitalist countries to have effected a breakthrough in establishing comprehensive relations with Vietnam, especially in the provision of economic, scientific and technical aid. After a period of interruption due to the Cambodia issue, as soon as Vietnam withdrew her troops from Cambodia, those West and North European countries took the initiative in resuming their development aid to and stepping up their cooperation with Vietnam, without waiting for a solution in Cambodia. The exchange of visits between Vietnam and West and North European countries led to the signing of a number of economic and cultural agreements; Vietnam established joint commissions for cooperation with France, Germany and Italy, while Sweden and Finland continue their annual aid to Vietnam. Germany has begun development aid for Vietnam, though still at a modest level. The United Kingdom, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Holland and Switzerland have step by step re-established their economic and trade relations with Vietnam. Another outstanding feature in Vietnam's relations with the West and North European countries was the EEC's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Vietnam. This created favourable conditions for Vietnam to develop economic cooperation with a regional organization having the strongest economic, scientific and technological potentials in the world at present.

Along with the improvement of Vietnam's relations with the EEC, her cooperation with Australia was boosted to a higher level and her relations with Japan was given a strong impetus.

The normalization of the US-Vietnamese relations is still meeting with many complications and difficulties, but signs of improvement appeared last year. Five rounds of Vietnam-US negotiations, including one at foreign ministerial level, took place within five months. Worthy of note is that US public opinion from Congress to mass organizations and business and press circles has been urging that the U.S. Government early re-establish relations with Vietnam in the interest of the United States. No doubt, the present Vietnamese-U.S relations entirely depend on whether or not the U.S Government wants to look forward to the future.

Fourth, 1990 also witnessed many new things in Vietnam's handling of humanitarian issues such as the repatriation of refugees, the settlement of the M.I.A and other humanitarian issues, as well as its correct attitude toward some major international issues including the present Gulf crisis. This attitude has been welcomed by concerned countries and the world community.

Fifth, there have been a new development in the relations between Vietnam and its traditional allies and traditional friends. Though the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and friends of Vietnam are meeting with crisis or difficulties, economic and as well as political, the friendly relations between Vietnam and its allies and traditional friends has not been weakened. In the long run, prospects for cooperation are great.

At present, more than half of Vietnam's export earnings come from these traditional markets. Moreover, the biggest investment projects of foreigners remain, those of the Soviet Union and other traditional friendly countries. Therefore, the present difficulties are only temporary. To reduce difficulties, both sides are seeking appropriate modes of cooperation and transaction for the transition period. In the relations with her traditional friends, Vietnam's relation with India have an exceptional place".

NHAN DAN says in conclusion:

"The open-door policy has initially created favourable conditions for the Vietnamese people's national construction and defence, thus contributing to peace, friendship and cooperation in the region and the whole world".

Nguyen Thi Hang News Conference on Repartriates

BK2501152191 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 25—A press conference was held here yesterday on an EEC-funded project to resettle Vietnamese voluntary repatriates who had fled to neighbouring countries.

Present at the conference were Nguyen Thi Hang, deputy minister of labour, war invalids, and social affairs, and John W. Pilgrim, head of a visiting delegation of the European Economic Community (EEC).

The project is aimed at providing job for the returnees and stabilizing their life. It includes the building of job training centres and workshops, and the upgrading of infrastructure such as transport and communications systems, electric and water sypply networks, schools, seadykes, healthcare and cultural institutions in the localities where the repatriates are living or where they will return.

The first stage of the project, financed with $13 million, will be carried out in the port city of Haiphong, the northern border province of Quang Ninh and Ho Chi Minh City in the first quarter of this year.

Hanoi Radio Marks India's 41st Republic Day

BK2501151591 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Jan 90

[Text] On 26 January 1991, the Indian people will jubilantly celebrate their 41st Republic Day. With their industriousness, enthusiasm, and creativeness, the Indian people over the past 41 years have obtained many marvellous achievements, bringing the country to the rank of advanced nations.

In recent years, despite the recession in the world economy, the average annual growth rate of India has been stable at between 4.5 and 6 percent. The Indian Government has been pursuing a traditional foreign policy of peace, independence, and nonalignment. It has continued the struggle for peace, disarmament, and a new world economic order, and supported the movement for freedom and national independence against colonialism and racism.

India's prestige has been growing constantly in the international arena. As well as its achievements in economy and diplomacy, the progress India has made in culture and education has created preconditions for its successful implementation of the Eighth Five-Year Plan.

India and Vietnam have been fostering their time-honored relationship. There has been profound mutually political understanding between the two nations. Recent decade has witnessed a constant growth of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries cultivated by the late President Ho Chi Minh and the late Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Similarly, the Indo-Vietnamese cooperation has been developing simultaneously in agriculture, stock-breeding, railway, oil and gas, textile, commerce, and technology. A number of projects built with Indian assistance or as a result of Indo-Vietnamese cooperation have expanded. They include the Hoc Mon rice research center, the Song Be Murrah buffalo farm, the Hoa Hong (Rose) orphanage, and many others.

At the first session of Indo-Vietnamese Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation convened in April 1980, Vietnam and India signed a number of agreements for bilateral cooperation in the spirit of mutual benefits. Under one such agreement, India will offer Vietnam a 100-million-rupee loan for the development of the railway network and postal service. India is also expected to help Vietnam train specialists and skilled workers in more energy sources, agriculture, water control, and management.

India has signed a 5-year contract with Vietnam for prospection of oil in three lots. In 1989, India conducted (?demographic) study and market consumption services. In October 1990, India began the first drilling on Vietnamese continental shelf.

Over the past 41 years, India has been playing an important role in ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam and Cambodia and supporting the revival of Cambodia. India has also promoted its role in an effort to seek a political solution to Cambodia. By so doing, India has demonstrated its positive contributions to resolving the Cambodian problem and turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

Last year and this year India has been hosting a number activities in celebration of the centenary of the birth of President Ho Chi Minh. At a recent reception for General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers, who came to India to attend these activities, Indian President R. Venkataraman and Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar expressed Indian people's respect for the life of one of the late Vietnamese leader. Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar said the government and people of India consider celebration of the birth centenary of President Ho Chi Minh not only an internationalist duty but also the government undertaking to be fulfilled by the entire Indian people.

On the same occasion, the Indian leader pledged all-out efforts to strengthen friendship and multisided cooperation with Vietnam in the interest of the two peoples and of peace in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

On the Republic Day of India, the Vietnamese people would like to express their deep gratitude to the Indian people for their valuable support and assistance. The Vietnamese people wish the Indian people happiness and successes in the cause of building a prosperous and powerful India.

Australia

Senior Iraqi Diplomat Expelled From Canberra

BK2601081691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Australia has expelled the most senior Iraqi diplomat remaining in Canberra. The foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, said the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Canberra, Mr. Saad Omran, has been given 72 hours to leave the country. He was being expelled under Article 9 of the Vienna Convention, which allows the host country to expel any member of a diplomatic mission without giving reasons.

However, Senator Evans said that the decision to expel Mr. Omran was security related and that Australia was acting to protect its own interests. The Australian Government earlier this week expressed concerned over statements made by Mr. Omran linking Australia's involvement in the Gulf war with the possibility of terrorist attacks.

But Senator Evans said the expulsion decision was not specifically related to the statements but that they had been a factor. With Mr. Omran's departure, the Iraqi mission in Canberra has a staff of five—three of them are diplomatic and two, administrative and technical. Mr. Omran was Iraq's most senior diplomat in Canberra, because Baghdad's former ambassador, Mr. 'Afif al-Rawi, had not been replaced when he returned to Iraq earlier this month at the end of his tenure.

Envoy Leaves for Malaysia, Tehran

BK2801070191 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Iraq's senior diplomat in Australia, the charge d'affaires, Mr. Saad Omran, leaves today after being expelled on security grounds. Mr. Omran, accompanied by his wife and four children, flew out of Canberra on his way to Malaysia and Tehran where he will journey overland to Baghdad.

The foreign affairs minister, Senator Evans, announced the expulsion on Saturday, saying only that the reasons were security related and that the government was acting to protect Australia's interests.

Suspect Charged in Attempted Pro-Iraq Hijack

BK2601074691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0635 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Sydney, Jan 26 (AFP)—A 27-year-old man appeared in court here Saturday after police allegedly uncovered a plot to sneak a bomb aboard a U.S.-bound aircraft and hijack it to Iraq.

It was the first hint of a major terrorist act here in connection with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's call for a holy war against members of the U.S.-led coalition force, which includes Australia.

Hamid Taoube, a Lebanese-born Moslem of Sydney, appeared before Justice of the Peace Peter Ryan in the central local court on charges of threatening to endanger the safety of an aircraft.

Police Prosecutor Raff del Vecchio said Mr. Taoube telephoned the Iraqi Embassy in Canberra and offered to hijack an aircraft in response to Mr. Husayn's call for a holy war.

Mr. del Vecchio said a police officer fitted with a listening device met Mr. Taoube Friday.

Mr. Taoube outlined a scheme for making a bomb and carrying it onto a plane, which he would hijack to Iraq, the prosecutor said.

Mr. Taoube's lawyer said he would plead not guilty.

Mr. Taoube was described as an unemployed welder who was separated from his wife and four children and was living with his sister in Sydney.

The court heard he had lived here 15 years and had been on sickness benefits for nearly six years due to a back injury.

Mr. Ryan refused bail because of the seriousness of the offence and adjourned the case for mention on Tuesday.

The court appearance coincided with the government's expulsion of Iraq's top diplomat in Canberra, Charge d'Affaires Saad Omran, for "security-related" reasons.

Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Mr. Omran was called Saturday to the Department of Foreign Affairs and told he had to leave Australia within 72 hours in accordance with Article 9 of the Vienna Convention.

"The reasons for the expulsion are security related and the government is acting to protect Australia's interests," Mr. Evans told reporters in Canberra.

Letter, Calls Urge Peaceful Resolution in Gulf

BK2701063891 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] The Uniting Church is asking its members to pray for peaceful resolution to the Gulf war. The request is made in a special pastoral letter issued by leaders of the Protestant Church. The letter being read at services today says that while the Church opposes Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, it is dismayed by the apparent ease with which American-led forces have embarked upon a military solution.

It urges members to pray for all Australians caught up in the war and for peace initiatives, including that of Uniting Church Minister (Neville Watson) who is at an international peace camp on the Iraq- Kuwait border.

The letter also calls for donations to help care for refugees.

Meanwhile, women of the Australian Labor Party have called on the United Nations to supervise a cease-fire in the Gulf war and to host an international peace conference. The National Labor Women's Conference in Brisbane says the summit should negotiate territorial disputes in the area.

The 230 delegates condemned the prime minister, Mr Hawke's, commitment of Australian forces to the Gulf without the endorsement of caucus or cabinet and called on Canberra to withdraw them.

The president of Queensland Labor Women, (Margaret Harvey), says the conference is expected full support of parliamentarians who last week abstained from supporting Australia's military commitment to the Gulf, and she says delegates are opposed to the use of American bases in Australia for Gulf war purposes.

Evans Says Greenpeace Stand on Oil Slick 'Error'

BK2701083491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0804 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Sydney, Jan 27 (AFP)—Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Sunday that U.S. Greenpeace was making an "appalling" error by holding Iraq and the U.S.-led coalition equally responsible for the oil slick in the Gulf.

Mr. Evans said on television the government was doing all it could to protect Australians from terrorism. His statement came as police said the late Saturday torching of a Jewish kindergarten and synagogue was not being treated as a terrorist attack.

Mr. Evans said U.S. Greenpeace had been reported as saying the U.S.-led coalition had forced Iraq's President Saddam Husayn into a scorched earth policy. This was "quite an appalling error of judgment," he said.

"There is no question of a beleaguered country resorting to desperate means to protect itself from invasion. They are guilty of invasion," he said, referring to Iraq's August 2 occupation of Kuwait.

Experts in the Gulf said the spill—moving south from Kuwait—was about 50 kilometers (30 miles) long and some 13 kilometers (eight miles) across.

Mr. Evans said the government "for obvious reasons" could not give details of its counter terrorism campaign or the reason why it expelled Iraq's top diplomat, Charge d'Affaires Saad Omran.

On Saturday the government expelled Mr. Omran for unspecified "security reasons".

The expulsion coincided with the court appearance of a 27-year- old Lebanese-born Moslem man after police allegedly uncovered a plot to sneak a bomb aboard a U.S.-bound aircraft and hijack it to Iraq.

The court heard Hamid Taoube had telephoned Iraq's embassy in Canberra and offered his services, including to hijack a plane, in response to Mr. Husayn's call for a holy war.

A police spokeswoman said the fire which damaged a Sydney kindergarten but did little damage to the adjoining synagogue was "being treated as vandalism, not as a terrorist attack."

"You always get churches and schools burnt every weekend," she said.

On Thursday, Moslem and Arab communities were advised to take precautions after the fire-bombing of a mosque here.

'Thousands of Croatians' Rally for Democracy

BK2701101791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0951 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Sydney, Jan 27 (AFP)—Thousands of Croatians, fearing their rebel republic could face attack by Yugoslav forces, Sunday held protests in Melbourne and Sydney, and called on the Australian Government to support Croatian democracy.

In Sydney several thousand marched on the Yugoslavian Embassy waving national flags and singing patriotic songs.

A spokesman said in a statement that Croatian communities were worried by reports of Serbian units of the Yugoslav Army on full war alert and ready to crush the rebel democratic governments of Croatia and Slovenia.

"Croats in Australia are not only concerned for their friends and relatives in Croatia but also for the many Australian citizens who are in Yugoslavia either on holidays or who reside there," he said.

In Melbourne about 4,000 marched to the Victoria's State Parliament House and listened to speeches from expatriate Croatians on the dangers facing their republic.

Organiser Tom Bosnjak said his people called on the Australian Government to "react along the lines of the United States State Department and the British Foreign Office and express support for democracy in Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia."

In Perth, more than 1,000 protestors of Croatian descent marched on the Yugoslav Consulate, demanding that Yugoslavia withdraw its soldiers from Croatia.

The demonstrators said they feared Yugoslavia planned to remove the democratically elected Croatian Government.

The rally was organised by the Croatian Democratic Union, which is worried that Croatia might return to communist rule.

The organisation called on the government to lodge a formal complaint over recent events in Croatia.

"We would like the Australian Government to use diplomatic channels to protest to the Yugoslav Government and tell it the feeling of Croatian people in Australia," it said in a statement.